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Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-215
Monday
7 November 1994

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Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-215 *7 November 1994*

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CIS Assembly Seen Shaping Integration

MM0411143694 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 3

[Article by political observer Yuriy Lepskiy: "On Thin Ice. Notes From the Session of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Unfortunately we write little and know even less about what happens at sessions of the Interparliamentary Assembly. To us it seems to be a particularly dull and uninteresting event. I also thought that way but I was wrong.

Now I believe that it is at the Tauride Palace in St. Petersburg that the economic, political, and social models of our life in the 21st century are being quietly and professionally shaped (let me remind you that the end of the 20th century is just six years away). It is not impossible, furthermore, that we will find out about the "Tauride" deliberations far earlier than that—for example, during the 1996 summer and fall political season in Russia.

What does the Interparliamentary Assembly actually do? Briefly, the official version is that it is actively preparing the legislative base for a new integration of the republics of the former USSR. Unofficially, however, the Interparliamentary Assembly has begun building the new home that we will possibly move into in a few years' time. The foundations of that building are being laid now—model legislation (or acceptable legislation common to all the sovereign republics of the CIS) is being written and adopted. The assembly's present session, for example, has approved part one of the CIS states' Civil Code. To give you an idea of this document's content, let me mention just a few of its 447 articles: "Protection of honor, dignity, and professional reputation," "Right to protection of personal privacy," "Right to inviolability of the home," "Enterprise," "Official and commercial secrecy," "Money," "Basic provisions on the joint-stock company," "Public funds," "Right of ownership and other property rights"....

The important thing is that this document, which does not contain a single declaration, is entirely practical, adapted to our actual daily lives, and has the form, essence, and force of a law which is recommendatory for the time being. I would remind you that the Civil Code is a legislative model common to all CIS states. I stress the word common.

What else does the assembly plan to adopt in common for the whole CIS? Next year it will be discussing a model Criminal Code, Labor Code, and Housing Code. At the Tauride Palace they will be examining the following common laws: "On the principles of settlements among economic components of the Interstate Economic Committee member countries," "On securities," "On joint-stock companies," "On limited-liability companies," "On agreed common standards for the production of output in the CIS states," "On the basic principles of taxation," "On the concept of collective security of the states party to the Collective Security Treaty," "On the protection of consumers' rights".... This far from complete list of laws common to the CIS republics is enough for us to understand that we are going to be living together in earnest for a long time to come. Whereas in the past the foundations of our common home were built on the shifting sands of the political declarations written by S. Mikhalkov and G. El-Registan but in reality held together by the steel bonds of the empire, now they are being created on a quite firm legal foundation and written by the full-fledged representatives of really sovereign states and their strength will be determined by how much the partners need one another.

Around four years ago, if you recall, the most widely used words in our political lexicon were "renewed Union." This meant that if the republics of the USSR were to get greater autonomy and Moscow fewer administrative functions everyone would be content and happy in the Union thus renewed. Now it is clear that these ideas were quite naive. Moscow would never actually surrender its administrative privileges to the republics voluntarily and the opposite of that would mean the suicide of the system. It sometimes seems to me that the unrestrained sovereignty bandwagon, the rapid formation of republic bureaucracies, the bloody regional conflicts, the explosions of nationalism, and the ethnic cleansing are quite simply the real price of the renewal of the Union. Undoubtedly the price is too high. However, that is the price that is being paid for the structural alteration of a gigantic country and the attempt to transform it into what really is a union of sovereign and equal members. It seems to me that the best guarantees of sovereignty and equality are the existence of ethnic property owners in the republics and a local bureaucratic administrative apparatus which will never simply surrender its powers to Moscow just like that. Whether all this is worth even a single human life is another matter....

One way or another the Interparliamentary Assembly, in my view, is already laying the foundations today of a really new real Union of really sovereign states and not simply a commonwealth of republics of the former USSR. I wonder what the supporters of the restoration of the USSR will do when everything that we have talked about becomes a political reality? Either they will publicly thank the Interparliamentary Assembly or they will choose to fight for ideological purity (or rather for the second and third "s" in the abbreviation—denoting "Soviet" and "Socialist"). In any event, it is the Interparliamentary Assembly which has done quite a lot to ensure that in 1996 the electorate who previously voted for the Umalatovs, Zhirinovskiys, Konstantinovs, and Anpilovs give their vote to those who made the renewed Union a reality not at rallies but by quietly and professionally creating its legal basis.

However, it is not that easy. I only had to ask the heads of the republic delegations a question about the "renewed Union" to immediately receive in reply a series of moral lectures on what a journalist should and

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should not ask. Answering my question on the renewed Union, Abish Kekilbayev, chairman of the Kazakhstan Supreme Council, Petr Luchinskiy, speaker of the Moldovan parliament, Yashar Aliyev, deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan National Assembly, and Ara Saakyan, first deputy chairman of the Armenian Supreme Council, on the contrary, did everything they could to stress the sovereignty of their republics. Only Abish Kekilbayev cautiously used the term "integration." Essentially I was taught a lesson in political good manners and it served me right! Of course, I should have remembered that in the house of a hanged man you do not talk about ropes, so among the heads of the CIS parliaments you should scarcely utter the word "Union," especially not in the sense of "indestructible."

The movement toward one another, or integration, is now taking place with great caution on the thin fall ice which has finally formed on the surface of the recently stormy sea of national ambitions and interrepublic conflicts. Any injudicious movement and the ice could break and everyone would drift away on their own ice floe. The important thing here is to do nothing which would cause panic, obstruction, or even endanger this cautious movement.

Vladimir Shumeyko, chairman of the Interparliamentary Assembly, believes that the process of political integration should not be hurried but should occur strictly after the strengthening of economic ties. The economy must dictate to the politicians both the forms of unification, the timetable, and the intensity of that process. I think he is right. For too long everything has been the other way around in our country: Politics forced the economy and indeed people's lives to fit into the framework of a single ideological doctrine. We know what the result of that was. Now the solution of political problems—Karabakh, Abkhazia, the Dniester region—will have to wait for the results of economic integration. And as for the "renewed Union," Shumeyko answered that question using the words of Ukrainian President Kuchma, who commented: "Anyone who does not regret the disintegration of the USSR has no heart, anyone who hopes to revive it has no head." Well, you cannot bring back the past, do not make the same mistake twice, that is all there is to it.

However, not everything that existed in the past has gone forever. Prior to the Interparliamentary Assembly session in the Tauride Palace an international conference opened on the legal problems of the social protection of veterans of the last draft of the war. It seems that they, drafted as 17-year-olds in the last year of the war, still do not even have the status of Great Patriotic War veterans. Furthermore, many of those who do have that status still do not have decent housing, high quality medical services, or a worthwhile pension even to this day.... There is just one thing that no one can take away from them—their common memory of the war, of their dead comrades, of the difficult days and nights at the front and in the rear, and of the hard postwar life given wholeheartedly to their common motherland—the Soviet Union.

These people are still alive, they have not disappeared into the past along with the name of the country, its cities, streets, and lanes. And everything that subsequent generations consider past has not gone, it all continues to live on with them and therefore with us. If you do not understand that you have neither a heart nor a head.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 5 Nov

LD0511071894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0613 GMT 5 Nov 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 5 TASS—ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI on the 77th anniversary of the 1917 October revolution:

"Three generations, sacrificing themselves, bore the brunt of the Soviet socialist experiment conducted on a particularly large scale. They kept the country intact and gave life to us, the present citizens of Russia. Our gratitude to them is boundless.

"But, while remembering the October of 1917, every sober-minded person can say only one thing: 'never again'. The memory of crimes and their victims is a guarantee against their recurrence".

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA carries an article by Mikhail Poltoranin, chairman of the State Duma committee on information policy and communications, about the role of the press in upholding democratic freedoms.

Poltoranin points out, in particular, that "written-to-order articles should be equated with contract killings. There are now very many such articles: this is evidenced by rude sallies against the president, the prime minister, and the State Duma as well. Blows are being dealt to the functioning institutions of power and politicians with capacity for work".

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR) carries an interview with Air Colonel- General Pyotr Deinekin, commander-in-chief of the Russian Air Force. He points out that the Russian Federation's new military doctrine assigned an exceptionally important role to combat aviation.

"Consequently, the air force should have new possibilities for a quick creation of mobile air groups and their flexible uses: to be armed with versatile long-range and high accuracy airborne systems and to continue to upgrade the basing, support and control systems," Deinekin said.

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NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA (NEW DAILY NEWSPAPER) runs an open letter by Soviet Ex-President Mikhail Gorbachev to mass media from a person "who launched democratic reforms a decade ago".

"The bureacratic arbitrariness combined with a predatory privatisation, the embezzlement of social wealth and the rampancy of crime—all are the consequences of the political course being pursued by the present regime," Gorbachev maintains.

Newspapers run articles marking the 50th anniversary of the execution of legendary Soviet intelligence officer Richard Zorge by the Japanese.

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'Own Interests' Prompt Plans To Extract Oil in Iraq

MM0711094194 Moscow TRUD in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Lukoil Ready To Work With Iraq"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "As soon as UN economic sanctions are lifted from Iraq, we should be ready to work there and extract oil," Leonid Fadun, vice president of the Lukoil company, stated live on the "Ekho Moskvy" radio station.

In his words, prospects for cooperation were discussed quite recently in Moscow during talks with Iraqi representatives. Lukoil already has agreements on joint activity in Iraq with a number of Russian structures.

"We understand that U.S. and indeed British corporations are not very interested in seeing Lukoil enter the international market. One authority in the oil business sphere told us the other day that we can work within the CIS, but not outside it. However, Russia has its own interests, particularly in Iraq."

Moscow, Ankara Seek 'Adequate' UN Response to Baghdad

LD0511145894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1327 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia and Turkey come out for an "adequate" response by UN Security Council to "constructive cooperation" between Baghdad and the UN Security Council's Special Commission and Iraq's compliance with the basic arms limitation and disarmament demands. This is said in a statement released by the Russian Foreign Ministry at the end of a meeting in Moscow between Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Ivanov and his Turkish opposite number Ozdem Sanberk.

"The Russian side noted that on the expiration of a control period, limited tentatively by six months, and in case of continued cooperation by BAGHDAD, the issue on lifting the oil embargo against Iraq could be considered in keeping with point 22 of the UN Security Council's resolution N 687," the message says.

Russia and Turkey agree that only a search for "political solutions" can lead to a lasting and comprehensive post-crisis settlement in the Persian Gulf.

Kozyrev Interviewed on Iraq, Relations With West

LD0411202294

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1725 GMT on 4 November carries the 10-minute "Details" program, in which announcer Nikolay Svanidze interviews Russian Federation Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev on various topics including sanctions against Iraq and Russia's relations with the West. The live or recorded interview takes place in an office on 4 November.

Svanidze begins by asking Kozyrev why, in his view, the opposition seems to have somewhat calmed down with its attacks on him. In reply to this, Kozyrev remarks: "It is difficult to say why. In my view, one of the reasons could be the fact that the opposition has understood that it is powerless, and not as much in my respect as in respect of the president. And the Constitution, too, refers foreign policy to presidential prerogatives. And you see that the opposition is trying to maneuver and avoid direct attacks on the president now. Rather, it is attacking the government's socioeconomic bloc. And of course, the situation with the ruble and the somewhat unjustified and artificial destabilization in the economy has, in my view, naturally evoked heightened interest in socioeconomic issues. In other words, in comparison with what is happening with the ruble, foreign policy complications and problems, apart from war or something very dramatic, are just trifles."

Talking to camera, Svanidze mentions today's government reshuffle involving Shokhin and Panskov and conjectures on who could become the next economics minister and the deputy prime minister with an economics portfolio. He says there are four candidates: Aleksandr Livshits and Oleg Lobov for the latter post and Yakov Urinson and Sergey Glazyev for the former. Svanidze remarks that he wanted to speak to Kozyrev because, unlike very recently, nowadays Kozyrev seems to have a strong position in the government.

Cutting back to the interview, Kozyrev continues: "How could we lift the sanctions against Iraq? We have fundamental differences with the opposition on this matter. Over the last few years the opposition has persistently claimed that the sanctions have been unfair, that it is almost an imperialistic plot against Iraq and that we should lift them unilaterally, establish cooperation and so on. This is what the opposition suggests, in other words, friendly embraces for Iraq regardless of the actual situation, and everything else does not matter. We did not and have not agreed with this. So there is neither concession to the opposition or any rapprochement between us."

Continuing this topic, Svanidze says: "Many foreign analysts regard the promises which Saddam Hussayn gave you as fairly vague." Kozyrev comments that "here, indeed, problems start, and here, unfortunately, - well, this is life, after all - we have difficulties on both sides. On the one side, we have our rabid opposition, and Iraq itself is a very complicated partner. And, true, there are Western interests which, in this case, do not coincide with our interests, and we should simply take this fact into account clearly and soberly. This is not, however, a reason to say together with our red-brown opposition that we are completely at odds with the West, that there is a cold war, irreconcilable interests and so on. But I have always been and still am far from idealizing our

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relations with the West and Western interests themselves. So there is an absolutely clear picture here. The West has staked on petrodollars coming from other sources, other Persian Gulf states whereas we, the Soviet Union, at the time reckoned to receive those 7 billion from Iraqi oil, that is, the oil which Iraq sells. So very deep differences are stemming from that."

Asked to confirm or deny a certain cooling down of relations between Russia and the United States, Kozyrev states: "First, I have always adhered to a pro-Russian line and regard it as the only possible stand for a Russian foreign minister. Second, I have always been and am adhering to a pro-Western or even pro-American line, even if these words are going to provoke yer another fit of hatred among the so-called patriots. As a matter of fact, I do not know what their patriotism is aimed at. Yes, I have maintained pro- Western views and will retain them but only on the condition that Russia will be really accepted in these powers' club. But to be in this club does not imply only to grovel and be grateful for everything, it implies also to have one's own interests and individuality, to defend them, if necessary, sometimes to argue and maybe even to fight with somebody, preferably without blood-letting, of course."

Asked whether Russian foreign policy has changed its overall orientation under his leadership, Kozyrev says: "I have worked in the Silayev, Gaydar, and Chernomyrdin governments, but the main thing for me is that I work directly with the president, and President Yeltsin is an immutable feature of this entire period."

Official on UN Vote on Bosnia Arms Embargo

LD0411213494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1932 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A top tanking official from the Russian Foreign Ministry called the results of the voting on the resolution on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the UN General Assembly on Thursday "A failure of the obtrusive Bosnian initiative set forth by the United States."

The resolution, in particular, contains an appeal to the UN Security Council to cancel the ban for arms deliveries to the Bosnian Moslems in six months if by that time the other side of the conflict, the Bosnian Serbs, do not adopt the peace plan proposed by "the contact group."

The United States are known to strive for canceling the arms embargo.

"The UN General Assembly adopted the resolution with 97 votes for and 61 abstained. However, 10 of 15 members of the UN Security Council, including Russia, refused to support this document," the diplomat declared to Interfax on Friday. He pointed out that the resolution has no compulsory force and is just a declaration on intentions in its essence. According to the diplomat, the issue of lifting the arms embargo is to be solved by the UN Security Council and the voting at the General Assembly has demonstrated the real disposition of forces within the Security Council.

In his opinion, such outcome of the voting testifies to a growing concern of the international community over "catastrophic" consequences which resumption of arms deliveries to one of the confronting parties can have for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"Judging by the situation, the majority of the members of the UN Security Council share the position of Russia and of its several western partners who are convinced that lifting of the arms embargo would inevitably lead to curtailment of the whole peacemaking operation in Bosnia and, consequently, to further escalation of this conflict," the diplomat underlined.

1 L 13 Radar Claimed Capable of Seeing Stealths

MM0411170794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Anatoliy Yershov and Aleksandr Sychev: "Our Radars Are the Keenest-Eyed in the World. They See Everything, Even Invisible U.S. Aircraft"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The invisible U.S. F-117A bombers which terrified the Iraqis during the war in the Persian Gulf because Baghdad radar stations could not see them have become visible. Russia is offering its clients abroad two radar stations which are capable of locating Stealth aircraft. This report has appeared in the just published issue of the magazine DISPATCHES, which belongs to Jane's Information Group, a major publishing group specializing in the output of military-industrial complexes.

We are talking of output produced by Nizhniy Novgorod's former V.I. Lenin Television Plant, now the "Nitel" Joint-Stock Company. Aleksandr Tomilin, the firm's deputy general director, says:

"We produce two types of radar stations. The long-wave, low-frequency '1 L 13' radar is designed to detect and determine the coordinates of aerial objects at great distances and with radio interference of any intensity. This station is also capable of determining an aircraft's distinguishing feature [prinadlezhnost]. The station is fitted to an Ural vehicle and locates objects at a distance of 300 km up to an altitude of 27 km. The other '55 Zh 6' station is more complex and sophisticated. It is our brainchild—created by the plant's radio engineering institute, which grew out of a design bureau."

The plant has an extensive network of clients all over the world. Through the mediation of the "Rosvooruzheniye" State Company the Nizhniy Novgorod firm supplies its products to over 50 countries. Incidentally, Iraq does not have such stations, which was why Baghdad's air defenses proved powerless before the Stealth aircraft. "Our equipment is unique, and this is

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why we are capable of squeezing our main foreign competitors on the market," Tomilin said.

The Nizhniy Novgorod firm really does not have that many rivals in the sphere of long-wave radar stations. The United States and other Western countries abandoned long-wave radar stations right after World War II, regarding this as an area without prospects, and went over entirely to high-frequency stations. The Soviet Union and now, accordingly, Russia did not abandon the technology and have scored significant successes over the past almost 50 years, leaving the West far behind. In the past few years the United States, France, and Britain have once again paid attention to radar stations operating in the meter band.

The article in the magazine DISPATCHES has prompted the U.S. Department of Defense to defend the honor of the invisible bombers. Pentagon spokesman Dennis Boxx declared at a news conference: "I believe that everyone knew long ago that it is hypothetically possible to create a means of detecting 'invisible' aircraft. Even existing technologies make it possible to do this. But also it is no secret that it will be insanely expensive to create such means of detection. This at once casts doubt on the expediency of work in this area."

The firm of "Nitel" has confirmed that the Nizhniy Novgorod complexes are quite expensive to produce, and also they are not cheap to operate, owing to the increased complexity. But the state's security makes high demands. Even pacifist-minded taxpayers would not forgive their government if the country's defenses had gaping holes because of excessive stinginess. This accounts for the heightened interest in output with the "Nitel" mark at exhibitions where the company has exhibited its radars.

In the opinion of Robert Pingely, chief editor of the magazine DISPATCHES, the Americans' calmness is most likely feigned. "They have been informed of the Russians' achievements in the sphere of low-frequency radars and are trying to find an antidote. It remains to be seen how successful their efforts are."

Submarine Clash Could Have 'Unpredictable Consequences'

MM0411165794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Eviction of Uninvited 'Guest'. Russian Submarine 'Sits on Tail' of American Submarine"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the Barents Sea near the Kola Peninsula at 1525 on 2 November of this year, a Russian diesel-powered submarine under the command of Captain Second Rank Yuriy Kuznetsov "sat on the tail" of a foreign nuclear-powered attack submarine which had unceremoniously penetrated deep into our state's territorial waters. A diesel-powered submarine is supposed to be able only to locate a foreign nuclear-powered submarine but no more than that—the difference in the submarines' power is too great.

However, in this case our submarine's crew acted so cleverly and decisively that the uninvited guest considered it as well to retreat from Russia's borders. This fact testifies, among other things, to the high combat-readiness of our diesel submarines. You could sing a hymn to the professional training of Russian submariners and the might of their weapons, but....

Any "games" under water are fraught with the possibility of most serious consequences. And whereas our submarines have been behaving peacefully and calmly for a long time, rehearsing their military tasks in clearly demarcated test ranges within their own territorial waters, the same cannot be said of the Americans.

It has become a bad tradition for foreign submarines to patrol areas adjacent to our borders, or else to encroach on Russia's territorial waters.

It is time that it was understood that, no matter what difficulties the Russian Navy may be experiencing today, it remains a fierce threat, and any provocation against it is liable to result in simply unpredictable consequences.

Meanwhile.... On Thursday, the Pentagon refused to comment on reports from Moscow and Murmansk about a U.S. submarine's violation of Russian territorial waters off the Kola Peninsula.

Defense Ministry Paper Lashes U.S. Over Submarine Affair

MM0411193594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 2

[Article by Vladimir Maryukha: "Will There Be an Apology from America, Whose Nuclear Submarines Are Continuing To Patrol Close to Russia's Coasts and Disregard Russian Sovereignty?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] If we allow for one instant that Russian submarines really are blind and deaf, as certain "specialists" maintain, and are far inferior to U.S. submarines in terms of range of detection, their own noisiness, and other combat qualities, how many times, then, have the Americans violated Russia's sea border? For even Russia's "hard-of-hearing" submarines have recorded not one or two such violations—the tally runs to tens (the exact figure could reveal data on the intensiveness of our Navy's combat training). The Americans disregard the fact that they are detected and forced to leave the Russian fleet's combat training areas and ranges. Equally, they disregard the fact that their actions are a direct violation of international agreements on shipping safety and create preconditions for accidents and disasters. In February 1992 the actions of the U.S. nuclear submarine Baton Rouge almost brought the world to the brink of a nuclear disaster—in a collision

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with a Russian submarine only a miracle averted irremediable consequences. Now, once again, a U.S. submarine is listening to and spying on our fleet in our territorial waters in the hope of impunity and of some "miracle."

The Russian fleet has abandoned active operations in regions where the interests of the United States and our other new partners are represented, and not only for economic reasons—partners must be respected. But if a partner takes advantage of his colleague's difficulties, then, following the logic of a well-known character in advertising, he is not a partner but a sponger. Particularly as the United States plainly has no intention of apologizing for the commander of its nuclear submarine, who grossly flouted the Russian borders' inviolability. Why should the U.S. President apologize if even once friendly Poland is in no hurry to apologize for the attack on Russian citizens by representatives of the official authorities?

In respect of the incident at the Warsaw station the Russian Government had sufficient courage to intercede for a few of its citizens. What is needed to defend all of Russia's citizens, including from uninvited guests from under water, is considerable funds to maintain the Army and the Navy. They do not exist at present, including in the defense budget for next year....

The U.S. submariners' actions, which, according to an ITAR-TASS report, the Pentagon has no intention of condemning or discussing, convincingly attest that the north of Russia, at least, is a sphere of vital U.S. interests. I hope there is no need to remind you how the Americans defend their interests.

Fleet Allowed To Use 'Combat Arms' Against Encroachments

LD0411175794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1621 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vasiliy Belousov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Murmansk November 4 TASS—The Russian Northern Fleet may use combat arms in case of a repeated attempt to trespass Russian territorial waters, in accordance with the fleet rules, head of the Russian Northern Fleet's headquarter department Rear Admiral Boris Sannikov told ITAR-TASS today.

He said they can prove that the submarine, which trespassed Russian territorial waters on November 2, belongs to the U.S. Navy. The rear admiral described this fact as an attempt to check the combat readiness of the Russian Navy.

Cuban Official Holds News Conference on Oil Deliveries

LD0411133094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1158 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Sereda]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 4 TASS—The decision of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations to suspend oil deliveries to Cuba has created a situation, which has no precedent in the history of Russian-Cuban trade relations, Adalberto Dumenigo, head of the Cuban trade mission in Russia, said at a press conference here today. He said the Cuban side expected official explanations from the Russian Government concerning the current situation, and hoped for a successful continuation of the talks.

In the opinion of the Cuban official, the root cause of the situation was a serious violation of the schedule of trade exchanges according to the oil-for-sugar scheme. First tankers with Russian oil came to Cuba not in January, as was expected, but in May. This is why the "first stage" of the plan was to be fulfilled during the May-September period. During the first stage Cuba received 1.5 million tonnes of oil and delivered 550,000 tonnes of sugar in exchange. The details of the "second stage" of the fulfilment of the intergovernmental agreement were not specified. All the sugar, produced by Cuba during the latest zafra, has already been sold to other countries, Dumenigo said. This is why Cuba suggests that payments for the "second stage" should be made from the next zafra.

For the first time a private Russian company participated in the fulfilment of the intergovernmental agreement, Dumenigo continued. The Cuban side is satisfied with a joint work with the Menatep-Impex trade and investment company, which fully met its commitments, connected with the delivery of oil in exchange for sugar. Cubans failed, however, to work out mutually advantageous terms with another Russian firm—International Economic Cooperation, which put forward the terms of exchanging sugar for oil that were not advantageous for Havana.

Dumenigo explained that although Cuba would have to look for oil suppliers in other countries, this did not mean that the next zafra was in jeopardy. He reminded that Cuba and Russia had been partners in economic relations for several decades, and pointed out that several days ago the Cuban Government had announced for the first time its readiness to discuss proposals on foreign investments in the sugar industry of Cuba. Responding to the question whether Russian firms will have any advantages in this sphere, Dumenigo said that the very fact of the 30-year-long cooperation between the two countries, large amounts of Russian technology in all branches of the Cuban economy, as well as the fact that thousands of Cubans graduated from Russian educational establishments and know Russia, are an advantage in itself.

Moscow To Continue Purchasing Sugar From Cuba

LD0411185694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1646 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Russian government has instructed the Foreign Economic Relations Ministry to

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ensure the fulfillment of the inter-governmental protocol on turnover and payments with Cuba for 1994 which, in particular, provides for the implementation of an oil-sugar barter deal.

The government's decision signed by Aleksandr Shokhin recognizes the need "to agree with the proposal of interested ministries and departments on the possible deliveries of raw sugar to Russia in December 1994 - January 1995."

The protocol signed with Cuba last December provides for the export of Russian oil amounting to 2.5 million tonnes in exchange for 1 million tonnes of raw sugar. According to the Foreign Economic Relations Ministry, as of mid September Russia has shipped 1.5 million tonnes of oil fulfilling the first stage of the contract and Cuba has sent to Russia 0.5 million tonnes of raw sugar.

The remaining part of the cargo is to be delivered in December- January in order to ensure the work of the Russian sugar processing factories which now are processing the sugar-beet harvest.

Earlier Russian officials had said Moscow might refuse to implement the second part of this deal. They called partial non- fulfillment of commitments by Havana as one of the major causes.

Rybkin Calls For Boost in Trade With India

LD0511233494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1313 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Leonid Kotov and Pavel Kuznetsov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Delhi, 5 Nov—"Russia for some strange reason is refusing to take the $1 billion dollars which India borrowed from Russia in 1993-94 and is now ready to return and this capital is gathering dust," State Duma chairman Ivan Rybkin told an ITAR-TASS correspondent at a news conference for Indian and Russian journalists here today. He is heading a delegation of the chamber's deputies on an official visit to India.

At the same time, it is completely incomprehensible "why attempts were made to sell this debt to third parties with up to a 40 percent loss", he said. In this connection, the edicts by Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin making new appointments to key posts were fully justified, the Duma speaker said. There have been obvious mistakes in the financial and economic sphere and the reshuffle in the government was done for good reason.

There are many difficulties and much that remains unclear in the framework worked out by the Russian side for the return of the Indian debt and our experts will now have to rack their brains to find an efficient means of releasing the mechanism for the return of this debt to Russia, Ivan Rybkin said.

In Ivan Rybkin's opinion, Russia has every opportunity to help strengthen India's defense potential. Russia, possessing great military-technical potential, can help to strengthen India's defense potential and develop cooperation with it in this field, Ivan Rybkin said. He also expressed the opinion that defense cooperation between Russia, India, and China "will guarantee peace in Asia for a long time."

Speaking of wider problems of commercial and economic cooperation between Russia and India, the speaker of the State Duma stressed that trade between our countries should be brought at least to the level of 1990, when its volume amounted to $3.3 billion. At the same time he regretted that many Russian organizations have not managed to win the tender for the right to modernize industrial enterprises built in India with the technical assistance of the USSR.

"But why this happened is for our Indian friends to answer," Ivan Rybkin thinks. India, in his opinion will as a result of this suffer obvious losses which the Duma speaker said he plainly spoke of at a meeting with the Minister of Trade Pranab Mukherjee, who is co-chairman of the Russian-Indian Intergovernmental Commission for Commercial-Economic and Scientific Cooperation. He also noted that the heads of government of our countries should take a careful look at the activity of the commission to correctly assesss the positive and negative aspects of its work.

Russia, DPRK To Discuss Resuming Nuclear Power Cooperation

LD0411153894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1445 GMT 4 Nov 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russia and North Korea will consider the possibility of resuming cooperation in the field of nuclear power.

Russia's Deputy Finance Minister Aleksandr Panov has said that Moscow and Pyongyang are prepared to hold "businesslike talks" on the possibility of resuming the construction of a nuclear power plant. The plant using light water reactors would be built near the North Korean capital.

Russia froze the project after North Korea declared its walkout from the nuclear arms non-proliferation treaty.

Moscow believes that the framework agreement North Korea and the United States concluded in Geneva in October, to overcome the nuclear crisis on the Korean peninsula, has produced a qualitatively new situation. "In general we are positive about that agreement and believe it was a step in the right direction," Panov said.

He said that "negotiations on the subject (of resuming the construction of the nuclear power plant near Pyongyang with Russian assistance. - IF) will begin shortly."

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About Russia's likely participation in an international consortium to convert North Korean graphite reactors into light- water ones, Panov said that Russia had always stated that it was prepared to promote the project. "Russia's participation in the international consortium is certainly important to us, because Russian technologies and equipment are quite safe and competitive," he said. "It is also significant that North Korea has repeatedly come out in favor of Russia's participation in the reactor replacement program."

Panov said that in reality Russia had already made the first contribution to the international consortium. "Our experts have already chosen a site and conducted feasibility studies into the nuclear power plant project near Pyongyang. Therefore, Russia has made a certain contribution to the reactor replacement program already," Panov said.

About the US-North Korean agreement Panov said: "It is important to ensure that the agreement should not be interpreted as departure from the basic principles of the nuclear arms non-proliferation treaty and the non-proliferation regime. It is of fundamental importance for both sides to observe it and understand it in the same way".

Panov recalled that the United States and North Korea repeatedly concluded various agreements in the past. "However, in the implementation and interpretation phases various problems emerged, which sometimes produced dramatic situations. This is one of the reasons why we continue to study this agreement and would like to receive more information from the parties concerned", Panov said.

Polish Minister Due in Moscow To Discuss Train Incident

MM0411152794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 1

[INTERFAX report under the "From Our Correspondents and News Agencies" rubric: "Head of the Polish Internal Affairs Ministry Will Soon Be in Moscow"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Poland's minister of internal affairs will arrive in Moscow 15 November to discuss the recent incident at a train station in Warsaw, when several Russian tourists were beaten up by the police. An accord on this was reached in the course of a telephone conversation Thursday between the two countries' premiers—Viktor Chernomyrdin and Waldemar Pawlak.

Poland's Milaczanowski Phones Yerin About Warsaw 'Incident'

LD0411194594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1730 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 4 TASS—Polish Interior Minister Andrzej Milaczanowski telephoned his Russian counterpart Viktor Yerin today to express sincere regret over the incident involving Russian citizens at the Warsaw eastern railroad terminal, the Russian Interior Ministry's public relations center told ITAR-TASS today.

In the words of the Polish minister, the Polish Procurator General's Office has instituted criminal proceedings on actions of the policemen and possible abuse of power, and on theft of the passengers' belongings. The minister stressed they are also having a service investigation supervised by one of his deputies and the chief police commandant. The latter has been instructed to ensure the protection of all trains from Russia via Poland.

Milczanowski assured Viktor Yerin he will do his best to reveal the incident details and exclude their recurrence in future. The minister will arrive in Moscow on November 15 with a group of Polish police heads to meet Viktor Yerin. By that time the Polish side will be ready to inform Russian officials of the incident details.

Moscow Condemns Explosions in Dushanbe

LD0411190194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1703 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 4 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs today condemned terrorist acts in the capital of Tajikistan. The ministry's statement received by ITAR- TASS by fax says that a series of explosions in several state organizations in central Dushanbe were carried out immediately after the end of the successful round of the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation, which extended the agreement of the cease-fire and other hostile actions.

The aim of the terrorist incursion was to intimidate people and destabilize the situation in the capital. It is obviously an attempt to hamper the presidential elections and the referendum on the draft constitution planned for 6 November, the statement says.

The Russian Foreign Ministry resolutely condemns the terrorists' actions and regards them as a provocation by those forces that make a stake on violence and confrontation and oppose seeking peaceful political solutions to the internal Tajik conflict.

The document calls for the unconditional observance of the agreements reached during the inter-Tajik talks and warns those who are trying to disrupt the process of settlement that has produced its first results and is enjoying the support of the world community.

Chernomyrdin Visit to Georgia Postponed

LD0411164594 Tbilisi SAKINFORM in Russian 1335 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The visit of Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to Georgia, planned for 4

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November, has been postponed until next week. Cooperation between the two countries in the spheres of transport, power engineering, and industry will be the topics of the Russian Prime Minister's talks with Georgian leaders.

Von Moltke Says 'Gentle But Resolute No' to NATO Membership

MK0511101094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Mikhail Zinin under the "Cooperation" rubric: "Stability... Stability... Stability... This Word Is Being Used as an Incantation by Gebhardt von Moltke, NATO Deputy Secretary General for Political Affairs"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Gebhardt von Moltke, during yesterday's sitting of the Council for Foreign and Defense Policy chaired by NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA Chief Editor Vitaliy Tretyakov, accepted congratulations in connection with the publication of his article in yesterday's KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. But he also had to hear a point-blank question from Duma Defense Committee Chairman Sergey Yushenkov: Is it possible for Russia to be admitted to NATO even if in the French format, that is to say, discounting the military aspect? Yushenkov is indeed known for his directness. As for von Moltke, he is deputy secretary general for political affairs. These facts added up to an answer that boiled down to extolling the 16+1 formula. The sum is 17 only in arithmetic; in politics the sum was and will remain not more than 16+1.

According to von Moltke, the process of NATO's expansion is evolutionary. The deputy secretary general's statement to the effect that he does not believe this possible in the very near future seems remarkable in this connection. Although, on the other hand, he persistently tried to inculcate in Council members the none-too-new thesis that NATO expansion should not be regarded in any way as being directed against Russia. In short, as was pointed out at the Council sitting, von Moltke said a gentle but resolute "no" to the demands of the Russian hotheads.

His other thesis said that NATO was physically unable to accept into its fold a colossus with feet of clay, hence one should strive for cooperation to the point of exhaustion.

What Russian politicians could not but like in von Moltke's words were the repeatedly stressed Russian "special" relations with the North Atlantic bloc. Including the unobtrusive reminder that the Russian ambassador to Brussels was informed the same day on all NATO decisions made regarding the Yugoslav crisis. Vitaliy Churkin's appointment as ambassador to Belgium appears in this context a rather well-considered step.

The CSCE was mentioned briefly, as it were, enabling a guess that the Russian initiative on lending the Conference a bigger role in regard to NATO has at the minimum not been taken up. This only brings back memories of what happened to the ideas conceived, or rather misconceived, on Smolenskaya [the Foreign Ministry] about Madrid-2 and an international conference on Korea.

It is hard to refrain from the remark that the stability zealously upheld by von Moltke works against progress and all development in general. Thus, Russian and NATO diplomats will have to work it out, no matter how far they are from being philosophers.

Violation of Chemical, Biological Weapons Accords Denied

MK0511094094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Ignat Lebyadkin in the "Diplomacy" column: "The United States Has Accused Russia of Failing To Observe Chemical and Biological Weapon Treaties. The Russian Federation Ministry of Foreign Affairs Has Confirmed Its Commitment to the Letter and Spirit of the Existing Agreements"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to the U.S. magazine DEFENSE NEWS, the U.S. Senate has postponed the question of approving the 1993 Convention on the Prohibition and Destruction of Chemical Weapons partly owing to the fact that Russia is not honoring the current treaties on chemical and biological weapons. The paper cites memos prepared by the U.S. National Security Council jointly with the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Senate Special Intelligence Committee.

In this connection SEGODNYA's correspondent has asked a high- ranking Foreign Ministry official, who is in charge of these matters, for comment.

According to the diplomat, there are two documents on Russian- U.S. accords in the area of chemical weapons prohibition: the 1989 Memorandum of Understanding and the 1990 Agreement on the Destruction of Chemical Weapons. These documents provide a two-way mechanism through which Russia and the United States deal with problems arising in the process of liquidating chemical arsenals, including those pertaining to provisions of the multilateral convention. Active and intense work is also conducted within the framework of the Hague-based Organization on Banning Chemical Weapons.

Naturally, both sides may have other questions for each other which are to be resolved in the process of discussion as part of this mechanism. There must be no doubts about Russia's adherence to the spirit and letter of the 1972 Convention on the Prohibition of Biological Weapons, and also the agreement on building confidence in this area which exists and operates in practice between Russia, the United States, and Great Britain. "We have repeatedly, including at the top level, confirmed our position on these matters," the Russian diplomat said.

New York Correspondent's Apartment Shot Up

LD0611113994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0650 GMT 6 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Borisenko]

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[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, 6 Nov—Several shots, presumably from an pneumatic weapon, were fired again on Saturday—for a second time in the last twenty-four hours—at the windows of the apartment where one of the Itar-Tass correspondents in New York lives. It was the third incident involving this flat in the last three days. The bullets—steel balls two millimeters in diameter—made a hole in a fine metal mesh, fitted in front of the window frame, and the outside glass of the window. By sheer luck nobody was hurt, though at the time of the shooting there were people in the lit-up room.

The head of the security service of the apartment block where the ITAR-TASS correspondents live has described the first incident which happened on 2 November as "someone's joke" and promised "to take measures". Police have been informed, however the New York 50th Police Precinct has not yet given any details to an ITAR-TASS correspondent. A representative of the General Consulate of the Russian Federation in New York said in a conversation that in recent years there had not been any such incidents.

USAID Educational Program Questioned

MK0511123094 Moscow OBSHCHAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 44/69, 4-11 Nov 94 (Signed to press 3 Nov) p 7

[Report by Yelena Dikun report in the "Dissonance" column: "Across the Ocean, Into the Past"]

[FBIS Translated Text] When the word "democracy" is pronounced, the first association is "America." It is deeply ingrained in us that the United States leads the world in the level of democracy. Meanwhile the three weeks spent in the New World have proved for me to be a trip into our socialist past, from where I have returned an even greater patriot of our present.

Briefing

I was invited to take part in the American-organized "Youth in Politics" program by the Press Relations department, Moscow, of the U.S. Agency for International Development. I was confronted with a purely journalistic task: To write about what I see. In bidding me farewell, division staffers were cordiality itself: "In covering all your expenses, we are in no way bribing you. Above all we are interested in objective information, even if negative."

Nonetheless, even immediately before departure we did not know who would be teaching 18 young Russian politicians in the country of advanced democracy, or what the subject would be. (The group was very representative: members of Russia's Democratic Choice, Yabloko, the Party of Russian Unity and Accord, leaders of young organizations, local administration workers, and even one deputy of an oblast legislature). At the briefing organized the day before departure for the United States by the Education Development Academy, responsible for organizing such trips, we were instructed for two solid hours on how to behave across the ocean: not to gaze around when crossing the street; not to make eyes, not to court the local fair gender; not to thrust one's hand into one's pocket to get a passport if stopped by a policeman, because he might think that you are trying to get out a pistol and shoot you without a second thought. Toward the end we were advised that we were entering the United States on a J-1 visa, which means that for two years a person may not emigrate not only to the United States but to any other country: Otherwise America will slam its doors on him forever.

Write Letters, Knock on Doors

Of all my high school teachers, the one I remember most often was my chemistry teacher: for her guileless straightforwardness. She would begin each lesson with the words: "Children, it is not important whether chemistry is interesting to you or not, or whether it will ever be useful to you in your life; the main thing is that we have covered the material. And we are following the program strictly."

"Program!" This word was hanging over us in America like the Sword of Damocles. The U.S. Foreign Policy Council, which hosted us, prepared an extremely intense program (four, five, and sometimes even more meetings a day) but, alas, depressingly monotonous. Everything was centered around election campaigns in the United States. The intransigent Republicans and Democrats agreed on one thing: The voter must be worked with long and hard. After the third lecture on the subject everything became clear, and after the fifth many were bored or puzzled. When the tenth lecturer began his speech with the point that it is necessary to meet voters more often, write them letters, knock on their doors, phone them, shake their hands, and look into their eyes, the group failed to restrain itself from laughing. And then we felt awkward both for ourselves and the bewildered lecturer.

We had to remember the experience of numerous Komsomol and trade union meetings where the main thing was to sit through them. In Atlanta, at Morehouse University, there was a very comfortable sofa behind the lecturer's back. We would arrange turns for dozing on it. Within an hour and a half one could have a wonderful rest, putting on dark glasses. The glasses were a "challenge prize."

No Awkward Questions

Ask your interlocutor acute questions, keep him on his toes, do not let him let his hair down, the Americans taught us. Responding to this appeal, I asked one lecturer—a young man, pontificating didactically to the effect that the incumbent Russian president is "a thing of the past" for America, and that they were now deciding which figure to back—which Russian politicians except Yeltsin and Gorbachev he knew. The response was excruciating silence. At this point our chaperon—an

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American of Soviet origin—hissed at me: "Don't you dare ask such questions. You are offending him." The lecturer himself, it needs to be said, rose to the occasion. After the seminar he came up to me and said: "You have taught me a good lesson. I will remember it for the rest of my life. I promise that I shall fill in this gap."

I will also remember this guy for a long time, because he was probably the only one among nearly 50 American "teachers of life" who openly admitted that he does not know how Russia is living, or by what. Presumably, in the perception of some Americans, we are at a prehistoric stage of development. One senator's aide in Wisconsin, motivated by the best intentions, showed us a photocopier, a fax machine, and a computer, and took a long time to explain how they work.

Our Guys in America

On the day we arrived in America, the group supervisor announced: "Today we will be celebrating Sasha A's birthday." "How lovely," I exclaimed with sincere joy, "Lucky he is!" "You do not understand, the reason is that his name starts with an "A." We will all come together every evening in the hotel to celebrate someone's birthday. For simplicity let us proceed alphabetically. You start with a "D," so your birthday will be in five days or so."

The idea flopped spectacularly, but nonetheless the group held caucuses of sorts that were surprisingly reminiscent of Komsomol meetings memorable to us all. The only difference was that the agenda included just one item —"Miscellaneous"—namely, who did not have lunch with the rest, who had one beer too many at a joint meal, who skipped a lesson (you may sleep there, but God forbid that you should skip it!).

But most curiously, some features of our pre-perestroyka being that we now feel ashamed of—denouncing and informing against each other, for instance—do not surprise the Americans at all, on the contrary, they are being encouraged and welcomed by all means. Not to say imposed. Any critical remark said within the group was immediately reported on to the top—to the Americans.

I have never imagined that these forgotten sticky feelings of distrusting each other and watching your words when somebody happens to be near would once again return to me. In America, of all places!

Escape

At some point I realized: they are pathologically fearful of leaving us alone without oversight. Once a young man from our group was five minutes late—he talked one on one with an assembly member of the city of Madison. On the evening I heard by chance an American woman who worked with us asking our interpreter: "What did he talk about with X? Why did you leave them alone?"

I do not know what the Americans were afraid of. Maybe, the Cold War stereotypes are still alive in their minds, and they see us all as potential adversaries? Or lest something should happen to us: what if a brick should fall on somebody's head or worse—somebody would run away and seek political asylum in the United States and this will immediately affect their career?

And an escape did occur. On Sunday, when we had no classes, five people, including me, left Washington, D.C., for New York for a day. Only upon returning did we learn that the American Foreign Policy Council prohibited participants in the program from going to New York and had them give a written undertaking not to leave the city. We were called on the carpet immediately, all the more so because the list of "escapees" was submitted to the American side by certain obedient co-students in our group.

The organizers repeated to us over and over again that we may not leave for even a minute without informing them in advance, even after classes. They said that we—how terrible!—have a plainly manifest free-thinking spirit and—which is absolutely intolerable—a penchant for leadership. At the same time they pointed a finger at us—if you think so much of yourselves we'll send you back to Moscow.

He Who Pays for the Music Dances With the Girl

In America they repeatedly made it clear to us that we did not pay our way to the United States with our rubles, but the American taxpayers' money. Large funds indeed were allocated to our program. We were told that each participant in the program cost the U.S. taxpayer $10,000. The sum inspires my greatest respect. It is another matter that for this money we were taught plenty of truisms, to learn which we did not have to go overseas.

I feel pity for the American taxpayers at whose expense petty bureaucrats and functionaries put on a semblance of feverish activity. I also feel pity for the lecturers with whom I happened to meet—because we were constantly reminded that they were spending "their valuable time" on us. For some reason it did not occur to the organizers that our time was also squandered in vain. Meanwhile, for each of the group's 18 members this stay was a business trip. Without dispute, when in Rome do as the Romans do. But when you invite a guest, the host, too, should respect his mentality, see him as a human being, an individual, not a poor relative to whom his rich uncle keeps demonstrating his charity and generosity.

Memo From Abroad

I asked the Americans several times: "Why were we asked to the United States at all? What is this whole program for?" In reply I heard approximately the same: "So that communism does not recur in your country." We know well what communism is. And the Americans helped us think of it again. Don't think I am making

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things worse than they really are. Before me is a document—a memo from the Agency for International Development [USAID], and the Education Development Academy [EDA] sent in to OBSHCHAYA GAZETA. It gives a detailed account of my conduct abroad. The style of this paper is painfully familiar—memos like this used to be sent to party committees at one's place of employment. "Yelena Dikun's conduct has a destructive character," "some of the program participants have said she is disinclined to cooperation (which whom?—Ye. D.) and places herself above the collective." "Dikun has said that despite USAID's financing her stay, she will write an objective article about the program even if it is an article of a negative nature."

Well, I will keep this paper for memories sake, frame it and hang over my desk. Next to the one certifying the successful completion of the "Youth in Politics" program issued to me by the Agency for International Development....

[signed] Yelena Dikun

P.S. Frankly, the impressions of my colleagues visiting the United States on other USAID- and EDA-sponsored programs are absolutely different—joyful, grateful. They may write about them as well, but, unfortunately, a word dropped from my song would make it all wrong.

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Political Issues

Yeltsin Appoints Chubays 1st Deputy Prime Minister

LD0511120494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1152 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 5 TASS—Anatoliy Chubays has been appointed the first vice-premier of the Russian Federation by a presidential decree.

Chubays Describes Responsibilities

LD0511170394 Moscow NTV in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Nov 94

[Report by correspondent Mikhail Svetlichnyy outside Moscow White House]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today, here in the government building on the Krasnopresnenskaya Embankment, Anatoliy Chubays held a news conference as first vice premier of the Russian government.

[Begin Chubays recording, speaking at news conference] We have discussed in detail the fact that I will in fact have to deal with economic issues overall, and not just with privatization. The decision itself was taken quite urgently, even very urgently. It is difficult for me to say if this is compensation. I will tell you my position once again, that there would have been plenty of room in the government for both Shokhin and Chubays, there is enough work here for five Shokhins and six Chubayses. There's no doubt about that. But nevertheless the decision has been made and I am ready to carry out the work and bear the responsibility which goes with the post of first deputy premier. [end recording]

The existence of two vice premiers [as heard] is nothing unexpected for the Russian cabinet. We will soon find out about personnel and what sort of coalition the Russian leadership is attempting.

Does Not Consider Himself as 'Last Reformer'

LD0511181994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1605 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 5 Nov—Anatoliy Chubays, who was today appointed first vice premier of the Russian Federation, does not consider himself to be "the last reformer" in the government of Viktor Chernomyrdin. He regards his main task in his new post to be to struggle for the adoption of the 1995 draft budget, which he assesses as a truly reformative document. He said this to correspondents today at a news conference in the White House.

Until now, Anatoliy Chubays has occupied the post of vice premier and chairman of the State Committee for the Management of State Property. He said that in his new post he will be in charge of the State Property Committee and problems of the economy as a whole. However, he cannot yet say namely who will be appointed minister of economics and new chairman of the State Property Committee. He said that changes in the government are inevitable, but specific names would be known within a few days.

According to Anatoliy Chubays, to call him "the last reformer," "the last of the Mohicans," does not correspond to the real state of affairs. In his opinion, one must judge real adherence to reforms not by words but by deeds. He believes that the draft budget for 1995, unanimously supported by the government, is a reformative decision. In his opinion, the premier, on whose initiative this draft was drawn up, and also the entire government, are reformative. "I will struggle for the implementation of the budget with a clear conscience," he said.

In reply to a question from the ITAR-TASS correspondent, Anatoliy Chubays expressed great regret in connection with the statement by Aleksandr Shokhin to the effect that he is resigning from his post of vice premier and minister of economics. "The government would have found enough for both Shokhin and Chubays to do," Anatoliy Chubays added. "Nevertheless, the decision has been made and there is no turning back," Anatoliy Chubays added.

He said that the appointment was not entirely unexpected for him. There had been preliminary talks about that.

Anatoliy Chubays noted that although he evidently will continue to be in charge of privatization, other issues will also fall within his sphere of competence. "It is not the only matter which I may deal with in life."

The new first vice premier expressed the opinion that the negative consequences of the so-called "Black Tuesday" have been grossly exaggerated. He believes that the real consequences of this event for the country's economic life are not as great as might have been expected. He drew attention to the fact that all the main ideas contained in the 1995 draft budget were drawn up by the government before the ruble exchange rate went through the floor. In his words, this event has not affected the government's approaches to this problem.

Anatoliy Chubays noted the inevitability of further changes in the government line-up. In reply to a question by the ITAR-TASS correspondent on his attitude to the possible inclusion of a representative of the Communist Party in the government line-up, he stated that he does not have "an ideological position" on this issue. In the opinion of Anatoliy Chubays, if a person is capable of working effectively in the government by virtue of his professional, business, and personal qualities, party membership is of no particular significance.

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To Head Securities Commission

LD0511192294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1632 GMT 5 Nov 94

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 5 Nov—Anatoliy Chubays, who was today appointed first vice premier, will be in charge of a specific section of work at the Russian government: he will be chairman of the State Commission for Securities. The decision to this effect has already been prepared and will be made public in the next few days.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent has been told this by a high-ranking source in the Kremlin. The source also confirmed that Yakov Urinson, who is currently first deputy head of the Economics Ministry, and Aleksandr Livshits, head of the group of experts in the presidential administration, are being considered as candidates for the post of economics minister.

Chubays Interview on Appointment

LD0511192894

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian at 1730 GMT on 5 November carries a four-minute recorded interview with Anatoliy Chubays, newly appointed first deputy chairman of the Russian government.

Asked what will now happen to the State Committee for the Management of State Property which he chaired, Chubays says:

"I have worked in the state property committee almost three years exactly to the day. But at the same time, I wouldn't say that it was being left entirely unattended. The fact that of the matter is that the State Property Committee will be among the departments I am in charge of."

Asked about the political significance of his appointment, he replies:

"In some respects, the demands for my resignation have been satisfied because a number of deputies did demand that Chubays should be released from his post of chairman of the State Property Committee - and Chubays has indeed been released from that post. But on a more serious note, frankly, it seems to me that that the main conclusion to be drawn from the Duma's past political events is that the tactics of who will squeeze out whom, the tactic of who is stronger, louder and more powerful, that tactic will lead inevitably to political confrontation which we have already had the misfortune to observe in our own recent history. And perhaps the time has come to take a new look at the situation. Perhaps the time has come to realize that we really are responsible together for what happens in Russia. I would address these words both to my supporters and to my opponents in the State Duma."

Asked whether a new Minister of Economics will be appointed, Chubays answers:

"There is a certain candidate for that post. He is being analyzed, scrutinized at the moment. The government is holding talks with him. The final decision has not been taken yet but I am convinced that a solution will be found and to be honest I think the candidate for the post will be named over the next few days."

Chubays says in conclusion that he has already taken "a most active part" in deciding that question.

Chubays on Division of Responsibilities

LD0511201694 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Anatoliy Chubays was by edict of the Russian president today appointed first deputy chairman of the government. At the same time he has been released from his duties as chairman of the State Committee for the Management of State Property and Vice Premier.

There will therefore be two vice premiers [as heard] in the cabinet of ministers: Anatoliy Chubays and Oleg Soskovets. It needs to be remembered that under the constitution there should be only one first deputy prime minister. However, when he was asked by our correspondent how this situation should be resolved, Anatoliy Chubays said that the matter should be referred to the lawyers and that they would think up something. Speaking also of how the responsibilities would be shared between himself and Oleg Soskovets, the first vice premier stated the following in an Ekho Moskvy interview:

[Begin Chubays recording] We have not as yet firmly fixed departmental responsibilities and how we shall be sharing them out. Essentially it is a matter of myself being responsible first and foremost for economic problems, financial problems and the problems of reform and of Oleg Nikolayevich [Soskovets] being responsible for his traditional area of handling problems in production and the material sphere and problems connected with current economic tasks, and so on. [end recording]

Says Reshuffles Not To Affect Reforms

LD0611154494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1436 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The latest reshuffles in the Russian government "will by no way lead to changes in the course of reforms that it has been pursuing," Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Chubays told a news conference in Moscow Saturday [5 November] following his recent appointment as such.

Chubays denied any link between his appointment and a second stage of privatization which "by itself is becoming one of the government's priorities". The

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state's incomes will grow by 70 times during the monetary privatization compared with the first stage, which will help the government solve other issues, including achieving a financial stabilization, he added.

Chubays dismissed speculations that his new appointment was some how linked with the "black Tuesday." The importance and after- effects of the ruble's slump were "highly exaggerated" and had led to an increase in prices by no more than 3-5%. According to Chubays, foreign businessmen never assessed the event "so dramatically as depicted by our mass media and some politicians." The "black Tuesday" will not affect investments in the Russian economy," he added.

Chubays regretted that "it has come to" Aleksandr Shokhin's resignation, which, he said, "would evidently be accepted." The president and the prime minister were considering a candidate to replace Shokhin at the talks with international financial institutions, he added. However, he declined to provide any names.

According to Chubays, there will be more changes in the Russian government "as the offices of economics and CIS affairs ministers and that of chairman of the State Property Committee still remained vacant." Chubays said he would like to see there people "capable to bear responsibility according to their professional capabilities and regardless of which party they belong to."

ITAR-TASS Provides Chubays Biography

LD0511171594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1626 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 5 ITAR-TASS—Anatoliy Chubays has been appointed first vice-premier by a presidential decree today, the presidential press service reports.

Chubays, ethnic Russian, was born on June 16, 1955, in the town of Borisov, Byelarussia [Belarus], to a family of a military. He graduated from the Leningrad Engineering-Economic Institute in 1977. He was an engineer from 1977 through 1982, and assistant professor at the Leningrad Engineering-Economic Institute from 1982 through 1990. Chubays is a candidate of economic sciences.

From 1990 through 1991 he was deputy and then first deputy chairman of the Leningrad City Executive Committee, in November 1991 he was appointed chairman of the State Committee for Supervision of State Property, and in June 1992 vice-premier.

Chubays' department elaborated a program of privatization in 1992 and ensured technical preparations for the program's fulfilment. The Russian population was given privatization vouchers, and local offices of the State Property Committee were formed in Russian regions. Under the program, privatization of state property is based on corporatization of enterprises, their auction sales for vouchers and money with major benefits for staffers of the enterprises.

After Gaydar resigned in December 1992, Chubays kept the government post in the cabinet of Viktor Chernomyrdin.

In July 1992 he was one of the initiators and participants in the forum of democratic forces which witnessed the creation of the Democratic Choice—an association of reform supporters. In June 1993 he participated in the creation of the Choice of Russia pre- election bloc of reform forces. In October 1993 he participated in the constituent conference of a movement with the same name and was on the list of Duma candidates from the Choice of Russia Electoral Association.

Chubays is fond of water tourism. He has been married twice, and has a son and a daughter from his marriage.

Yeltsin Accepts Shokhin's Resignation

LD0611132694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1310 GMT 6 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 6 Nov—Russian President Boris Yeltsin has accepted Aleksandr Shokhin's resignation and has relieved him of the post of deputy prime minister and economics minister, the president's press service reported today.

Shokhin tendered his resignation on Friday [4 November] in protest at the fact that he was not consulted about the appointment of the new finance minister, Vladimir Panskov.

Shokhin was also responsible for talks with Western creditors about Russia's foreign debt.

Shokhin Comments on Resignation

LD0611201894

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow NTV in Russian at 1800 GMT on 6 November during the Itogi program carries an "exclusive" 10-minute interview with Aleksandr Shokhin, former Russian economics minister, by correspondent Mikhail Svetlichnyy. Shokhin says the reasons for his resignation are much more serious than just a protest against the appointment of Vladimir Panskov as new minister of finance. Shokhin says:

"My reasons are much more serious. To be honest, I am not at ease with this movement toward forming a coalition. I do not think there is an objective grounding for it in November. The government has managed to stay despite the vote of confidence in it. It stayed despite the actions of protest against its policy. The government stayed despite the anniversary of the events that took place last October and despite the opposition's readiness to use those events for their advantage. All of sudden, practically out of the blue, and basically because of the investigation into the reasons for the destabilization of the financial market, all these ideas to form a coalition—

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that could not be realized on the basis of the above-mentioned reasons—have started to come into fruition. I think that this trend is dangerous."

Shokhin then goes on to say that new people means new policy lines. For instance, Vladimir Panskov, as well as Sergey Glazyev were rigorously supported by the Women of Russia faction. They come from the opposition and they will be working to their own agenda.

Shokhin continues: "Frankly, I think that the fact that Andrey Vavilov and I were severely reprimanded yesterday at the government session—and it was initiated by the prime minister—was just a way of protecting me and Vavilov in this case from a more severe punishment and from sacking after the ruble plunged on 11 October. I understand this logic, and frankly speaking, this is exactly how I understood it yesterday. I thought the prime minister did his best to show to the president and Security Council that serious measures were taken and that the guilty party was punished. The message was: Let us leave it at that for the time being. I would like to stress it once again that in my opinion the prime minister fought like a lion for the people who he can really rely on, he wanted them to stay in the government. To some extent I feel bad for resigning right after he succeeded in defending me. But I am driven not by personal grievances, but some sort of an assessment of the political situation. Incidentally, the latter made me think that in two or three months I would have been put in an awkward position, in a position when I would have been made responsible for the economic processes that are taking shape in society."

Shokhin is then asked by Svetlichnyy about Oleg Lobov's and Sergey Glazyev's chances of being appointed. Shokhin replies that he had already asked Lobov a couple of weeks ago whether he wanted to become the minister of finance. Lobov said that he had done a lot of top jobs and was not really looking for another one. As for Glazyev, his appointment to the government would have indicated that the government has changed its direction.

Shokhin continues: "Frankly, I decided to resign because I cannot influence the appointment process—and it was made very clear to me that it was not up to me to participate in choosing the minister of finance or the minister of economics. The situation here is quite complex. I would not like to be in the position of a sulking representative of the great power, so to speak. The truth of the matter is that for me it is a personal crisis. I cannot face meeting Lewis Preston, chairman of the World Bank, on Monday. He will ask me certain questions. For instance, are you going to keep the quotas for the export of oil and oil products next year. If it were a week ago, I would have told them no, we are going to abolish them. But what if the new minister of economics decides to say that we want to keep them in order to stabilize the export of them? I do not even know who the next minister of economics is going to be. No one discusses these matters with me. That is why, the best I can do is to have dinner with Mr. Preston and discuss some general subjects with him, the weather in Moscow for instance and hunting, let us say. That is why without naming any names—whether it is Panskov, Livshits, or someone else—I have landed in a situation when I cannot fulfill my main function, which is the coordinator of financial, economic and foreign economic policy, the representative of Russia at the IMF and the World Bank, and a number of other functions.

To stay in the government would mean to give journalists, for instance, and my political opponents a chance to say that Shokhin is prepared to work for any government because he is more attached to his armchair than to his ideas. I would not like that. I adhere to my ideas and to the implementation of them. If this is not happening I see no reason to sit around. There are a lot of other ways of proving yourself."

Chernomyrdin Tips Davydov To Handle Foreign Debt Talks

LD0511182194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1650 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 5 Nov—Viktor Chernomyrdin, head of the government of Russia, today expressed the possibility that Oleg Davydov, Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, will handle talks with international financial organizations on the Russian Federation's debt to the West. He has great foreign economic experience and experience of conducting talks. So, according to the premier, "he will have to be loaded with yet another task." The head of the cabinet stated this in an interview with the ITAR-TASS correspondent in the house of the famous Georgian sculptor Zurab Tsereteli. The Russian premier stressed that the resignation of Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin will not interfere with the talks on Russia's debt to the West. "Aleksandr Shokhin is evidently tired but nobody is irreplaceable in this matter," Viktor Chernomyrdin stressed. "Should the need arise, I will conduct such talks myself."

As far as the appointment of Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays to the post of first deputy chairman of the government is concerned, Viktor Chernomyrdin stressed that he will no longer be involved with the State Property Committee matters but will be in charge of a package of financial and economic issues. Appointments to the current vacant posts of minister of economics and chairman of the State Property Committee will be made after the holiday, Viktor Chernomyrdin said.

Davydov To Take Over Shokhin's International Duties

LD0611154394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1436 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told Interfax Saturday night that all

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issues concerning foreign economic relations, including talks with international financial institutions, will be handled directly by Foreign Economic Relations Minister Oleg Davydov who will replace resigning Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin in this capacity.

"Oleg Davydov is a properly qualified and experienced person, he is schooled well enough, and I am confident that he will worthily handle the task set before him," he said.

Chernomyrdin admitted that the government could face some difficulties while Davydov would familiarize himself with the new scope of issues. "But I see no tragedy in this," he pointed out. Chernomyrdin made clear that talks with international financial institutions had never depended "on Shokhin only."

"I cannot stand government members working in the government from time to time. Work in the government spells enormous responsibility, enormous labor and enormous patience," he commented on Shokhin's resignation.

Chernomyrdin added that First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Chubays will be responsible for economic issues after Shokhin's withdrawal.

Yeltsin Meets 'Major Politicians'

LD0411201894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1845 GMT 4 Nov 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature; compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, and edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Boris Yeltsin on Thursday met several major politicians—the chairman of the upper house of parliament, Vladimir Shumeyko, the minister of the affairs of nationalities and regional policy, Nikolay Yegorov, the leader of the Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms, Gavriil Popov, the leader of the Party of Russian Unity and Concord, Sergey Shakhray, the leader of the Democratic Choice of Russia party, Yegor Gaydar, and Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov, the presidential press service reported.

The meetings centered on various political, economic and legal matters and forms of the president's interaction with parliament and various political parties, the press service said. It said the politicians had given their views on the social and economic situation in Russia and suggested solutions to problems. Possible replacements in the government were also considered.

A source in Gaydar's office told Interfax that Yeltsin had asked for his opinion about Vladimir Panskov, appointed finance minister on Friday. Gaydar commended him as a budgetary policy expert.

The source said the president had asked Gaydar's Russia's Choice group in parliament to back the candidacy of Tatyana Paramonova as Central Bank chairwoman. Gaydar promised that the group would consider the matter before the voting in parliament. (Last Saturday Gaydar, at a meeting of activists of Democratic Russia movement, described Paramonova as a "high-skilled chief accountant.")

Yeltsin also told Gaydar that, if the leadership's concessions meant that opposition members would be incorporated into the government, "this would not help either the prestige of the government or that of the president."

Yeltsin and Gaydar also discussed the government's draft budget for next year, which Gaydar described as reasonable. But any concessions the government might make in its monetary policy would stop that policy from being carried out. Then "this risky but important enterprise will become a gamble," Gaydar said.

Shakhray told Interfax that Yeltsin had given him instructions to organize a meeting between the president and regional leaders.

Shakhray, for his part, told Yeltsin about the position of the parliamentary group of his Party of Russian Unity and Concord and informed the president about the current deliveries of goods and raw materials to the northern regions of the country.

Luzhkov said he had discussed with Yeltsin some key economic problems of Moscow, including that of subsidies to the city from the federal treasury, which "the Finance Ministry is blocking and doesn't want to give, thinking that Moscow needs no help from the state in carrying out its functions as capital city." "A solution meeting the interests of Moscow was found. What remains to be done is to formalize and carry it out," he added.

Another problem taken up by Luzhkov at the meeting were food supplies for the capital. He said he told the president that "the problem of lifting customs duties for food has only partially been solved. "We'll continue to press for the government to lift the enormous customs duties for what are vital food items," he said.

The plunge of the ruble on October 11 was also among the matters that came up at Yeltsin's meeting with Luzhkov. The president informed the mayor about the findings of the Security Council investigatory commission and "made an assessment of the conduct of some of the Moscow banks," which "made a dishonest use of the situation, making it worse."

Yeltsin "voiced active support for the measures taken by the Moscow municipal government to keep down prices," which soared after the ruble had sunk.

Yeltsin Holds Meeting on Crime Prevention

LD0411155494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1510 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 4 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—The main theme of the meeting held by President Boris Yeltsin today with Viktor Yerin, minister of

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internal affairs; Sergey Stepashin, director of the Federal Counterintelligence Service; and Aleksey Ilyushenko, acting procurator-general, was crime prevention and strengthening of security, law, and public order in the country.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent learned from the presidential press service that, having listened to reports presented by the 'power' ministers, the president expressed his dissatisfaction with the general state of affairs in the sphere of crime prevention. The president demanded in a "strongly-worded manner" that crime fighting should be intensified and investigations of the cases that violate citizens' personal safety and human rights should become more energetic and efficient.

Boris Yeltsin, in particular, demanded the full report back on the progress of investigation into the specially grave crimes which shocked the Russian public. The president studied the information relating to investigation of the murder of Father Aleksandr Men and the terrorist attack on journalist Dmitriy Kholodov.

Yeltsin, State TV, Radio Chairman Discuss Media Role

LD0411214994 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 4 Nov 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] This afternoon, Russian President Boris Yeltsin met Oleg Poptsov, chairman of the All-Russian State TV and Radio Company. They discussed problems of state radio and television, the media's present and future, and their role in bringing about an atmosphere of accord and mutual understanding in society. [video shows Yeltsin and Poptsov shaking hands]

Kostikov on New Finance Minister Appointment

LD0511123794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1110 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 5 Nov—Vyacheslav Kostikov, press secretary of the Russian president, believes that the appointment of Vladimir Panskov as Russian finance minister "took place in secret." He said this to journalists today at a conference entitled "October 1917 and the Bolshevik experiment in Russia."

In the opinion of Vyacheslav Kostikov, "few in society know" the new minister. "Aleksandr Shokhin was not even informed—that, unfortunately, reflects a certain sickness in our glasnost," he added. Vyacheslav Kostikov specified that he was expressing his personal opinion since he had not discussed the matter with the president.

Commenting at the request of the ITAR-TASS correspondent on the statement by Aleksandr Shokhin, who yesterday tendered his resignation from the posts of deputy prime minister and minister of economics, who expressed fears that "the top echelons are now ready for an alliance with opposition forces," the press secretary noted that there is a need to conduct a dialogue with the opposition, "but not at the expense of making concessions in respect of the democratic gains that already exist." The government is, in his opinion, seeking a certain amount of balance in conditions of mounting criticism. "However, if there is a dialogue with the extreme opposition, we will drive the democrats into opposition, and that will mean the collapse of the reforms," he added.

Filatov Says Presidential Staff To Be Cut by 500

LD0511181594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1657 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 5 Nov—The administration of the president of Russia is shortly to be reduced by 500. It currently contains 2,180 permanent staff members, but in fact 1,800 are working. The ITAR-TASS correspondent was told this by Sergey Filatov, the head of state's chief of staff.

He said the scheme for the reduction was worked out by him jointly with Viktor Ilyushin, first assistant to the president, and they had no differences on this. We remind you that the head of state recently announced the need to reduce the civil service apparatus in all sectors of power by one-third.

Sergey Filatov said it is planned to cut not only the vacant posts. There will also be cutbacks among members of parallel structures in the administration and apparatus of the head of state, namely the Analytical Center, the Directorate of Information Supply, and others. These parallel structures will be combined and consolidated. The cuts will not affect the State Legal Directorate [GPU] until the question of the functions of the GPU and Ministry of Justice of Russia have been resolved.

Sergey Filatov said the scheme worked out for cutting the presidential administration will be submitted for Boris Yeltsin's examination next week.

He denied press reports that he has working under his command over 3,000 persons, because "the Presidential Guard Directorate, the Government Communications Directorate, and the Directorate of Affairs do not form part of the administration of the head of state."

Yeltsin Aide on Schedule, Popularity

LD0511232394 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 5 Nov 94

[Interview with presidential aide Viktor Ilyushin by announcer Dmitriy Voskoboynikov; date and place not given—live or recorded, from the "Novosti" newscast]

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[FBIS Translated Text] [Voskoboynikov] Viktor Ilyushin, the first assistant of President Yeltsin, is rightly considered one of the most influential figures in Russia. He told me about many interesting things. It is enough to say that Viktor Ilyushin spoke for the first time about the president's plans for this month in the Novosti program. This information is usually kept secret. I started our conversation by asking the aide if Yeltsin's latest moves mean that the president is not satisfied by the status quo and is seeking to improve his popularity.

[Ilyushin] The true politician should probably always think about his popularity and think, of course, about how various actions affect public opinion and the attitude to the author of those actions. I think that Boris Nikolayevich's concern about the attitude of Russians to him is quite justifiable. I should tell you that steps taken by Boris Nikolayevich at present - and a little bit later I will tell what he is going to do in November - were prompted, first and foremost, by the fact that he is dissatisfied with the work which is being done here, in Russia, and by his desire to implement reforms more rapidly, effectively, and intensely.

Yes, it is true, Boris Nikolayevich decided to reduce his administration. I think that this will be painful but will have no particular effect on the work of his administration, I mean for the worse. We discussed this with Sergey Aleksandrovich Filatov. We have similar views on where things could be cut, at the expense of what, and where things could be expanded, improving the work of the presidential administration. There will be fewer levels of authority, fewer officials.

[Voskoboynikov] Perhaps there will be also fewer rumors saying that at times when Boris Nikolayevich is away his closest entourage, the staff of his apparatus are in disagreement.

[Ilyushin] You know, I have some idea as to where all this comes from but I would prefer not to speak about it now. As to the essence of the question, I regret that a more worthy theme was not found and that problems were not looked for which could be tackled together. As for the aides, I never said everyone sings in unison in this choir. We have many voices. We have quite a large choir, so to speak. Of course, it is not without problems, there is a diversity of views. Opinions do not always coincide. But I think that we have so far managed to organize and coordinate our work.

And finally about your question on Boris Nikolayevich's role in a decision on Chernomyrdin's trip to Poland. Unfortunately, I cannot say either yes or no to your question because I did not take part in these conversations. But I think that it is unlikely that Chernomyrdin made a decision without holding consultations with Boris Nikolayevich first.

[Voskoboynikov] Igor Vasilyevich, what about the immediate plans of Boris Nikolayevich, lets say for November, or until the end of the year? What steps is he going to take?

[Ilyushin] You have probably noticed that over the past week Boris Yeltsin has met with a large number of politicians of the most diverse positions. Next week there will be two major interesting meetings. Boris Nikolayevich has decided to meet a set circle of people who could express their position to the president on foreign - that will be one conference or meeting - and domestic policy - that will be the second meeting. It is interesting. As a rule, people who do not always agree with the president's position attend these meetings - and sometimes it is all the more interesting to speak about that.

Next week Boris Nikolayevich intends to visit Udmurtia, in the first place to meet the leadership of that republic. The latest events which occurred there connected with the murder of a deputy minister of internal affairs, with the worsening crime situation, will force Boris Nikolayevich to hold a meeting with the leaders of these departments in the republic.

And the date of 10 November, I think will be known to many people in the world since it marks the 75th birthday of that famous inventor - Kalashnikov - many in the world today shoot from weapons invented by him and, of course, Boris Nikolayevich will find the opportunity to meet that man who enjoys world renown, all the more so since Russian state awards have been conferred on him. Boris Nikolayevich will confer them on him.

I would name among other major events the meeting between Boris Nikolayevich and a group of Russian Federation administration heads but this time he has decided to meet those from the Far East.

Boris Nikolayevich is always greatly interested in meeting certain legal experts who tell him what they think of the process of constitutional reforms, of legislative, law-making activity in Russia and the undertaking given during a meeting between Boris Nikolayevich and the leaders of the State Duma and the Federation Council to hold a conference to coordinate law-making activity will be implemented.

Boris Nikolayevich plans to visit Pskov Oblast this month. There is a whole series of issues.

[Voskoboynikov] The border with Estonia?

[Ilyushin] Yes, the border with Estonia and problems, or rather, questions of the region's, in this case, the oblast's socio- economic development.

[Voskoboynikov] Has Boris Nikolayevich planned anything for 7 November?

[Ilyushin] You know, as a rule, he works on 7 November. Nothing has been fixed yet but I think that since the Kremlin Cup opens then, too, Boris Nikolayevich might go there.

I think that November's most important event is, perhaps, on the 25th. If there are no changes to his schedule, a large meeting will take place in the Kremlin on

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questions of economic reform under the provisional title of "Prospects of Economic Reform in Russia". Boris Nikolayevich intends to invite to take part in this meeting, as it were, a microscopic section of the Russian business world and to speak not so much of whether the government of the Russian Federation should be dismissed as of how the efforts of the Russian Federation government can be implemented practically in deeds.

[Voskoboynikov] Incidentally, Viktor Vasiliyevich, here is another topic which I would like to raise. The situation has now arisen in which not only the national-patriotic opposition, but even some democrats, for instance, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, the Yabloko leader, is essentially criticizing, or identifying criticism of the government with criticism of Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin.

[Ilyushin] Well, that is probably justified because the constitution also provides for a rather close dependence between the structures of the president and the government. I think that our talk about the president's schedule also has shown that Boris Nikolayevich is very concerned about the work of the government and that is why he intends to carry out such events in November.

[Voskoboynikov] But still, it would be interesting to know what you think - and you perhaps know better than anyone else. What are relations between our president and prime minister like?

[Ilyushin] As far as I know, the president and the prime minister work in very close contact with each other. I would say that their relations can be characterized as respectful and well- disposed toward each other but also highly principled and demanding. I can also affirm that because I am sometimes witness to contacts between the president and the premier and the most important thing is that their joint work is aimed in one direction - that is the most important thing.

[Voskoboynikov] There are some who say that this is Yeltsin's government and that it's not right to say that it's Chernomyrdin's government. I would like to know your point of view.

[Ilyushin] We have adopted a constitution which, it seems to me, states rather clearly and intelligibly that any government which works in Russia may be called either after the president who puts forward the main candidacies for the main posts in the government and it may also be called after the premier for he is namely the one who bears full responsibility for the work of his cabinet.

[Voskoboynikov] So it's right to call it the government of both Yeltsin and Chernomyrdin?

[Ilyushin] Of course. In my view, it's better to put it like that.

[Voskoboynikov] All right. And the last question: on what political forces does the president intend to lean in his activities, on what social base? After all, it is an open secret that the national-patriotic opposition will never enter into any union or make any compromises and so on and so forth. At the same time, there is vacillation in the democrats' camp and that was shown by the confidence vote in the government.

[Ilyushin] The president does not intend to deviate from the path which he embarked upon when he became president of the Russian Federation. Just like everybody else, he suffers from changes in his mood and physical state and that is why there may be such noticeable fluctuations in the intensity of his work and, naturally, such fluctuations are to be observed.

As for the prospects of the president of the Russian Federation, well I also number among those who do not yet know the plans of Boris Nikolayevich connected with June 1996. I do not know what they are.

[Voskoboynikov] So nobody knows what they are?

[Ilyushin] Why? The president may know. Boris Nikolayevich will most likely talk about his plans himself.

Rybkin 'Satisfied' With Government Changes

LD0711121494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1129 GMT 7 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 7 TASS—Chairman of the State Duma, who ended his visit to India two days earlier than planned, said in an ITAR-TASS interview today that he had returned to Moscow ahead of time because of personnel changes in the Russian Government. On the whole, he is satisfied with the latest appointments—the appointment of Anatoliy Chubays to the post of first deputy prime minister and of Vladimir Panskov—to the post of finance minister. "The consolidation of the financial and economic bloc was urgently needed by Russia, because ex-Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin obviously found it difficult to handle all his numerous commissions," Rybkin pointed out.

In his opinion, "the Russian Ministry of Finance should become an institution with the stable personnel structure, instead of a kaleidoscope of people. Otherwise we shall never improve the position of the rouble... In some countries Finance Ministries remain intact even after the collapse of a government. It is important for the president, the prime minister and the finance minister to maintain relations, based on confidence."

He said he realised that his colleagues by the State Duma may "run amok" in response to the appointment of Chubays to the post of first vice premier. However, the chairman of the State Duma is going to support the new deputy prime minister, because, in his opinion, he is "an active and consistent reformer, highly intelligent and capable of accumulating experience." Speaking about his capacity for starting conflicts, which he demonstrated during his confrontation with Moscow Mayor Yuriy

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Luzhkov, Rybkin expressed hope that Chubays would be able "to listen to and hear those with whom he works." "People's deputies are not the enemies of Chubays. During the argument over privatization they sided with Luzhkov, because monetary privatization should bring revenues to the budget for supporting education, science, culture and people in the low income bracket," Rybkin said.

He did not conceal his interest about who will be appointed minister of economy. He would like to see on that post neither Yakov Urinson, nor Aleksandr Livshits, mentioned in the press, but a man from "St. Petersburg, the second capital." In his opinion, the second biggest city of the country should by all means be represented in the government. "This is a matter of principle," he stressed.

Decree on Classification, Protection of State Secrets

MM0411131994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 5

[Article by Vladimir Seledkin: "State Secrets on Open Register. Russian Federation Government Issues Decree (No. 1684-d, Dated 24 October 1994) Approving Plan for Elaboration of Priority Normative Documents to Protect State Secrets"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Some 140 million rubles [R] will be allocated for this purpose in the fourth quarter of 1994 by the State Technical Commission from funds earmarked for federal budget sundry expenditure.

There has been talk for some years of the need for such documents. Since the abolition of the old structures which assiduously ensured that secret information, for example, did not get into the open press, the question of controls has been in a kind of limbo. On the one hand, no one has abolished liability for careless talk while, on the other hand, it was left to the informers themselves to decide what could be talked about with gusto and what it was better not to mention.

A delicate situation arose, fraught with unforeseeable consequences. The Russian Federation Government has finally gotten down to resolving it. Its decree sets out the procedure for publication of documents, intended to bring order to the chaos that reigns in the interpretation of confidentiality. This applies above all to the rules determining what information constitutes a state secret and to the various degrees of secrecy. The central apparatus of the Russian State Technical Commission (organ in charge), the FCS [Federal Counterintelligence Service], the Defense Ministry, the State Committee for the Defense Industry, the Ministry of Atomic Energy, the Ministry of Science and Technology Policy, the Ministry of the Economy, the Ministry of Justice, the Rosarkhiv [Russian State Archives], and the Federal Government Communications and Information Agency [FGCIA] have been assigned the task of elaborating them. The urgent need for this document is indicated by the fact that the organs doing the work have been given a matter of days to think about it.

Equally urgent is the task that has been assigned to the aforementioned ministries and departments, together with the Russian FIS [Foreign Intelligence Service], Russian Academy of Sciences, Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Communications, and organs of state power, whose leaders have been invested with the authority to classify information as a state secret. They have been directed to produce this very November a list of information which, if disclosed, might prejudice state interests. Unlike in the past, this register will be made public, which should serve as a clear warning to individuals with a nagging desire to make public their impressions of restricted facilities.

A list is one thing, but what is urgently needed is guidance on access for officials and civilians to state secrets. It must be provided immediately by the Russian FCS (organ in charge), Defense Ministry, central apparatus of the State Technical Commission, Ministry of Atomic Energy, Rosarkhiv, and FGCIA. And let us hope that they have already done some groundwork, which will expedite the task.

A little later, this November, the central apparatus of the Russian State Technical Commission, the FCS, the FGCIA, the Ministry of Atomic Energy, the Defense Ministry, and the State Committee for the Defense Industry are expected to produce regulations on licensing enterprises, institutions, and organizations to carry out work connected with the use of information that constitutes a state secret, the creation of means of protecting information, and the provision of services to protect state secrets. A statute on the certification of means of protecting information will be submitted in December.

The same timeframe has been set for organs of state power whose leaders are invested with the authority to classify information as a state secret to devise a list of information that should be made secret. In 1994-1995 they will also work on drafting documents setting methodological norms for determining the amount of damage caused as a result of the dissemination of state secrets, which are being elaborated by ministries and departments in accordance with the state secrets protection functions performed by them under Russian Federation legislation.

No later than next year the Russian FCS, Defense Ministry, FGCIA, FIS, central apparatus of the State Technical Commission, State Committee for the Defense Industry, Ministry of Atomic Energy, Rosarkhiv, and other ministries and departments are obliged to submit instructions on safeguarding secrecy in ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations. The same organs, except for the Russian Atomic Energy Ministry, plus the Russian Ministry of the Economy and Finance Ministry are to elaborate in

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1994-1995 a statute on the procedure for financing the activities of organs of state power and budget-funded institutions, enterprises, and organizations and their structural components on the protection of state secrets.

The prepared documents will be presented by the responsible organs for examination at a session of the Russian State Technical Commission and, once they have been approved, they will be submitted to the Russian Federation Government according to established procedures.

Text of Yeltsin Directive on Voter Awareness

MM0411132794 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 2

[Russian Federation Presidential Directive No. 558-rp, signed by President B. Yeltsin and dated 1 November 1994: "On the Federal Program for Raising the Legal Awareness of Voters Who Are Russian Federation Citizens, of Organizers of the Electoral Process, and of Representatives of Russian Federation Public Associations"]

[FBIS Translated Text] With a view to raising the legal awareness and ensuring the activeness of voters who are Russian Federation citizens, of organizers of the electoral process, and of representatives of Russian Federation public associations:

1. The Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission in conjunction with interested representative and executive organs of Russian Federation state power with the participation of representatives of electoral commissions in Russian Federation components and Russian Federation public associations shall submit by the end of 1994 a draft federal program for raising the legal awareness of voters who are Russian Federation citizens, of organizers of the electoral process, and of representatives of Russian Federation public associations.

2. With a view to coordinating and ensuring the work to implement the federal program referred to in Paragraph 1 of this decree, the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission shall be permitted to set up a Political Marketing [marketing] Center under the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission, and to ratify a statute on it.

3. The activity of the Russian Political Marketing Center shall be financed in the fourth quarter of 1994 and in 1995 out of federal budget funds allocated to the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission.

4. The proposal from the Federal Assembly Federation Council to transfer 200 square meters of premises at No. 2, Tsvetnoy Boulevard, Moscow, to the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission to house the Russian Political Marketing Center shall be complied with.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
[Dated] 1 November 1994
No. 558-rp

Stepashin Visits Komi Republic

LD0611220194 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 6 Nov 94

[Video report by Ye. Kuznetsov from Komi; introductory graf read by announcer; From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] On the eve of his visit to Komi, Sergey Stepashin, director of Russia's Federal Counter-Intelligence Service [FSK], together with other heads of the power structures, met President Yeltsin. Telling his numerous interlocutors in Komi about the tough conversation which took place at this meeting, Stepashin stressed that henceforward the FSK would take an active part in fighting crime and in resolving the country's other problems. The Russian leadership must know everything, even if it is not very keen, and the FSK is designed to inform it of the situation that has arisen, the Russian Counter-Intelligence chief stated.

[Kuznetsov] Sergey Stepashin today ended his stay in Komi. On 5 and 6 November Sergey Stepashin and Komi Republic leader Yuriy Spiridonov held a number of talks in Syktyvkar on protecting the state's economic interests. Under their chairmanship an expanded sitting of the local government took place. A news conference was organized, during which the federal counter-intelligence chief said in particular that behind the so-called coal project for Vorkuta and the inflated dimensions of the accident on the oil pipeline in Usinsk are the commercial interests of major Western and Russian firms.

[Stepashin] The country's northern region is very harsh. People are working, people are tackling their problems, people are not engaging in intrigue for the sake of simply grabbing power.

[Kuznetsov] During the night of 5-6 November the Ulyanov-Lenin memorial was covered with dye, which is difficult to wash off. These memorials are no longer protected by state security.

'Personal Choice' Seen as Key To Health

MM0411143194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 4

[Report by Tatyana Sadkovskaya: "We Get Gonorrhea More than Dysentery. Notes From the Session of Russian Federation Security Council Interdepartmental Commission on Health Care"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Why are we not the healthiest people in the world? After all, over the past two years dozens of acts of legislation, government decrees and directives, and two presidential edicts have been issued for this noble purpose, and a number of federal programs have been ratified. If only half of the intentions in them had been realized, the sturdy Russian people would be

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the envy of all mankind as a model of good health. But, instead, the state of Russians' health is disastrous.

Last year deaths in Russia exceeded births by half a million. Specialists are talking about the start of our nation's depopulation. In order to comprehend this fact, which has come about quietly and unnoticed against the backdrop of our political and economic problems, we should imagine that a medium-sized oblast city has essentially disappeared from the map of Russia. It has died.

The components of our bad health are well-known. They were discussed yet again at the recent session of the Russian Federation Security Council's Interdepartmental Commission for Health Care, which examined the question "On the State of the Public Health Situation in the Country and Measures to Stabilize It." The recent cholera outbreak and the fuss about plague require no additional arguments about the topicality of this issue. But, quite apart from anything else, these are historically terrifying words. We try to talk about things that are equally fatal for our health, but not as frightening. And we usually try to appeal not to the state, but to our own common sense.

Not only because the state is nowadays usually cast in the role of incompetent healer. Here is just one fact. Epidemics are running riot in the country, but two federal organs—the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry [Minzdravmedprom] and the Sanitation and Epidemiology Inspectorate [Sanepidnadzor]—are simply unable to divide up their spheres of influence in the midst of these rampant infections or to organize cooperation. Two years ago Health Minister Eduard Nechayev considered that it would be wrong to hive off the Sanepidnadzor into an independent structure and at all costs did not want to sacrifice his principles, not wishing even to look at the draft document drawn up by his colleagues to regulate the relationship between the two departments. It is impossible, of course, to calculate how many deaths this kitchen spat between mother-in-law and new bride has cost Russia, but it would be impermissible for the government to go on turning a blind eye to it. The situation is already no laughing matter.

To develop the metaphor of "state-as-healer," we should recall that our physician-healers are badly paid. Consequently there are doubts about the effectiveness of the measures once again being proposed by the Interdepartmental Commission—insistence on ratification of some more programs by the government, of some more laws by the State Duma, on the preparation of yet another draft presidential edict.... It is well known that every word of these documents costs money, and money—as we also know only too well—is something we do not have.

No financial value has been put on our own common sense, but in the struggle for our personal and, even more so, national health it can be worth millions in support for the state. Such ideas were also voiced—not as clearly as the assessment of the relationship between the Minzdravmedprom and the Sanepidnadzor, and not as vocally as the complaints about the financially strapped health-care system—at the Security Council commission session. But they are above all worthy of our attention, since—being, as they are, virtually free of state institutions and the budget—these proposals could be the first real steps toward improving the nation's health.

Some 40 million Russians live in environmentally unfriendly territories. There are plenty of well-known and tragic illustrations of the impact of the environment on Russians' health. So let us take the extreme scenario first—the number of congenital defects in the country is on the increase—at 4-5 percent against a normal 1-1.5 percent. Scientists claim that the burden of mutations threatens to become the number-one problem in the coming century. But how can even the most conscientious Russians react today to the fact that they are being "irradiated," forced to breathe air poisoned by industrial monsters and to drink water that has been contaminated by the same plants? They can write to the newspapers and the authorities.... They can take part in environmental protests.... And what happens? Two years ago Aleksey Yablokov, the current chairman of the Interdepartmental Commission for Environmental Safety, put forward the idea of turning this stream of environmental complaints into a stream of lawsuits. This would have required legislative backing for the right of citizens to demand compensation for the damage done to their health from those guilty of ruining the environment.

But this economic stick for beating the polluters has been left pending amid the state's other concerns. Admittedly, there is now some hope that the idea that has been mooted for two years will be incorporated in the agreement under preparation between the trade unions and the government. In the future this will be our first opportunity to stand up for our own health.

Here is a second opportunity. Production is the second-biggest threat to our health. Currently 4.6 million Russians work in dangerous and harmful conditions. Almost 11 million enjoy various well-known privileges in return for the fact that their health is being undermined every day and their lives are being shortened. If these people were given the choice between working under normal conditions but losing their privileges, or continuing to kill themselves, most people's answer would be obvious. If the question were put even more categorically—that is, if it were a question of shutting down harmful production facilities—it is quite possible that there would be social unrest in response to this concern for working people's health. But it is not an idle question. The second phase of privatization, when bombed-out enterprises will be auctioned off, is in the offing. Most of these enterprises use antediluvian equipment and antediluvian technology with, consequently, dangerous working conditions. Will the new private owners be investing money in ensuring normal working conditions in the very first days and even years of their ownership?

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Undoubtedly not. The incidence of work-related injuries at privately owned enterprises is already 160 percent higher than at state-owned enterprises. Therefore the proposal from Yevgeniy Belyayev, Russia's chief public health physician, not to sell off enterprises with harmful working conditions to private owners seems sensible and convincing. Such enterprises should quite simply be shut down! But will the government, which will lose billions for its budget, agree to this? Will, ultimately, all of us agree to it when we come up against the real threat of unemployment? As you can see, we can only appeal to people's very good sense.

But for some reason our good sense stays silent even when we have to make even simpler choices. For instance, to catch or not to catch diphtheria or even gonorrhea. Let me give you the background. Last year almost 40 million people caught infectious diseases. Of course, we can and should accuse the collapsing health care system—which has totally abandoned preventive work—for allowing this to happen. But why should we only blame our reflection, when we know that....

Many infectious diseases are a result of our own lifestyle and our poor concern for our own health. For instance, we were scared of cholera, but diphtheria—an epidemic of which has been sweeping across Russia since 1990—does not scare us, even though last year 470 people were killed by this "children's" disease. It turns out to be scarier than cholera. And all we need to protect ourselves and our children is an injection. Special clinics exist and vaccine has been bought, but 40-50 percent of the vaccine remains unused in certain Russian regions. We are ordinary heroes....

The incidence of intestinal disease remains high—particularly dysentery. For many reasons this fate can befall even the person who is most solicitous about his own health. But do you know that people in Russia get gonorrhea more often than dysentery? Last year the incidence of syphilis was 160 percent up on the previous year. So it all depends, as you can see, on personal choice.

I began this appeal to our self-awareness with an extreme example (congenital defects), and I am ending it with another extreme example (VD). Not just for the sake of style. But because I had decided to draw an extreme conclusion from the very outset. Having seen for ourselves that life has shown that all public-health campaigns launched from above are not very effective, let us try to begin a movement from below, starting with ourselves. Perhaps then the authorities will get cracking, and their action—augmented by ours, will be more effective.

Economic Issues

Chernomyrdin, Panskov 'Committed' to Reforms

LD0411173494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1558 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Vladimir Taranov and Konstantin Savvin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 4 Nov—"We are committed to the path of reforms and we will not turn aside from it," Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernmyrdin stated today when he presented Vladimir Panskov, the new finance minister, to his subordinates. The prime minister gave a high assessment of the minister's business qualities and noted his commitment to the policy of reforming the economy.

At the same time he spoke in favor of making use of the experience and deep knowledge of the former acting finance minister, Sergey Dubinin.

In his address Vladimir Panskov stressed that the path being followed by the Finance Ministry "Is the path approved by the president and the government."

Dwelling on the problem of the budget for the coming year, he said that he is prepared "To carry out the budgetary policy which has been drawn up by the Ministry of Finace and approved by the government."

Speaking at his first news conference in the Finance Ministry, Vladimir Panskov said that he did not see any link between his appointment and the resignation of Aleksandr Shokhin. He stressed that he is prepared to work constructively with all members of the cabinet. Vladimir Panskov also spoke in favor of working together actively with the deputies of the State Duma and the Federation Council.

On the question of financial stabilization, the minister pointed out the importance of the government's existing integrated program for extricating the economy from its crisis. The minister stressed the need to provide incentives for manufacturers and to carry out restructuring.

Career of New Finance Minister Surveyed

MM0711102794 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Sergey Mashtakov: "Vladimir Panskov Appointed Russian Federation Finance Minister"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Boris Yeltsin has confirmed Vladimir Panskov, deputy chief of the Russian Federation Presidential Staff Financial and Budgetary Administration, as Russian minister of finance.

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI Dossier

Vladimir Panskov, a doctor of economic sciences, was born in 1944. He graduated from the Moscow Financial Institute in 1965. He was USSR deputy minister of finance, and in 1990-1991 ran the USSR presidential apparatus' financial and budgetary department. After the collapse of the Soviet Union Vladimir Panskov became deputy leader of the Russian Federation State Tax Service. However, his career was cut short by his arrest 25 February 1993 on suspicion of corruption. According to some reports, his "case" was orchestrated by circles who were being greatly hampered by the Russian tax service. Vladimir Panskov was released

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from custody 26 May 1993, and the country's General Prosecutor's Office ruled that criminal proceedings were to be dropped for lack of evidence.

Following his release Vladimir Panskov worked for several months in an advisory capacity in the State Tax Service, then briefly headed the State Duma budget committee. From May of this year to his current appointment Vladimir Panskov was deputy chief of the Russian Federation Presidential Staff Financial and Budgetary Administration.

Vladimir Panskov's appointment to the post of finance minister has not come at the best time for him. The new minister faces at least three highly important tasks which he must must achieve in the near future: the stabilization of the country's currency market, the creation of a mechanism for currency regulation, and finding the funds to implement these tasks.

How the situation will develop subsequently will depend on how the government and the new finance minister carry out their proclaimed tight financial and credit policy in practice. The main pledge of stabilization in this context should be the 1995 federal budget. However, it requires improvement. Above all the government must give up its pipedream of covering the budget deficit through issuing state securities, from the sale of which it plans next year to obtain more than 41 trillion rubles, or more than half the federal budget deficit.

The situation as regards foreign borrowing is also not so simple. According to Andrey Vavilov, in 1995 the Russian government plans to obtain credits worth U.S. $6 billion through IMF channels. Around another $3 billion in credits are envisaged from the World Bank and the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development. However, over what period of time and at what rate of interest the government intends to obtain these loans, no one has hitherto been able to properly explain.

If Vladimir Panskov manages to resolve the problems outlined above, he will go down in history as independent Russia's most professional finance minister. Of course, it will be a thankless task to sum up Panskov's activity in his new capacity after his first 100 days, since this period of time is hopelessly too short to sort out the country's financial system. Even an experienced professional like Viktor Gerashchenko needed one year to sort out the banking sphere when he took over from his predecessor. The only thing that can be guaranteed is that there will be no sharp rise in the dollar in the near future. At any rate, Vladimir Panskov's experience gives every basis for hoping so.

New Finance Minister Profiled

LD0411195894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1840 GMT 4 Nov 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Boris Yeltsin on Friday gave the post of finance minister to Vladimir Panskov.

Panskov, whom Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin was due to present to the Finance Ministry's staff on Friday afternoon, replaces acting Finance Minister Sergei Dubinin, dismissed as one of those responsible for the abrupt slide of the ruble on October 11.

IF Note: Panskov, born in 1944, holds a degree of doctor of economics. In the past he was deputy finance minister of the former Soviet Union, running the ministry's budgetary department. In 1992 he became first deputy head of Russia's State Taxation Service, and after that worked for several months at the Budgetary Committee of the lower house of parliament. Since last May he has been deputy head of the finance and budget department of the president's office.

Panskov told INTERFAX that the president's offer to appoint him finance minister had come "somewhat unexpected." But he "didn't hesitate" to accept it, "being perfectly aware of the great responsibility" this involved.

He said he was not yet ready to make any comments on the government's draft national budget for 1995. But the country needs a "realistic" budget. "We can't have a situation where the state receives only 60 percent of the planned revenue," and, as for expenditure, the state should use most of its money to restructure the economy and bolster private business, he said.

"We shouldn't support unprofitable enterprises, we have no money for that now," he said. But "enterprises having a large scientific and technological potential mustn't be left without financial support." "The taxation system must have its stimulating functions strengthened to make it an instrument in economic development," he said.

To create a "realistic budget," Panskov said he was ready to closely cooperate with parliament and its committees.

He said he would make no reshuffle in his ministry in the near future. "I'd first of all like to know more about people I know nothing about and to see what they're worth, and only after that shall I make up my mind," he said.

Meanwhile, Aleksandr Shokhin announced that he was resigning both as economics minister and as deputy premier.

"If I leave the government I won't do any partial resignations," he told a news conference in Moscow on Friday.

He said he would offer his resignation to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and President Boris Yeltsin the same day and "will be waiting for a decree (to dismiss him) in order to concentrate on work in the State Duma (the lower house of parliament)."

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He said he doubted that his resignation would be turned down. "The president doesn't like to change his mind," Shokhin said, obviously implying that Yeltsin would make no concessions to keep him in office. Panskov's appointment was "not at all the reason" for his resignation, he said, although "it would be difficult to start a policy of financial stabilization by asking the new minister what he thought of it."

The deputy premier complained that nobody had consulted him about the candidacy of Panskov, about whose appointment he learned "as he was entering the Slavyanskaya hotel (venue of the news conference)."

Giving his reasons for resignation, Shokhin said it was the first time that he had felt that he might not be able to carry out some of his plans because "the upper echelons have apparently become ready for an alliance with opposition forces now that the elections are getting nearer."

"Economics in Russia is becoming a hostage to politics," many politicians trying to bring their economic principles into line with the current political situation, he said.

Speculating on a possible government reshuffle, Shokhin surmised that Vladimir Isakov, a parliamentary opposition leader, stood practically the same chance to become justice minister as Sergey Kovalev, a well-known human rights champion and a member of the Russia's Choice reformist party, and that the post of economics minister, although it might after all be filled by Security Council head Oleg Lobov, might easily go to former foreign economic relations minister Sergey Glazyev, today a member of parliament and a strong critic of the government. IF Note: At an earlier news conference, held on Thursday, Shokhin said that "until last spring he had been ready to vacate the post of economics minister for Glazyev. "However now it's become obvious that this must not be done, because he represents another ideology of economic reforms," the deputy prime minister said.

Yeltsin Issues Edict on Control of Securities Market

LD0711114994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0933 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 7 Nov—Russian President Boris Yeltsin has signed an edict on state control of the securities market in the Russian Federation.

The president's press service told ITAR-TASS that, to curb abuses and breaches of the rights of citizens, the edict states that entrepreneurial activity on the securities market should be carried out exclusively by professional participants on the basis of licenses issued under a procedure determined by Russian Federation legislation. Securities will be issued exclusively on the basis of registration with authorized state bodies unless otherwise stated by Russian Federation legislation.

The edict also establishes forms of entrepreneurial activity on the securities market.

The edict says that state regulation of activities on the securities' and financial markets is to be carried out by way of licensing and controlling the work of banks and other credit and finance institutions and professional operators on the market; ensuring that the emissions body follows the procedure for registering an emission of securities and conditions for their investment; controlling the authenticity of information on the results of their economic activity given by the emissions bodies; setting up a system ensuring that the rights of investors are observed and that the emissions bodies, banks and other credit and finance institutions, professional operators on the securities' market and exchanges also observe those rights.

It is established that henceforth, until a federal law on the requirements for securities is adopted, the following securities can be admitted for public investment: state securities, registered shares in joint-stock companies and banks, options and warrants for securities, bonds, housing certificates and other securities which are allowed for circulation in accordance with federal laws and international agreements signed by Russia.

The edict instructs the government of the Russian Federation by the end of 1994 to coordinate with the Central Bank and adopt measures to stop any entrepreneurial activity on the securities market and in the financial market which is being conducted without the appropriate licences.

The edict sets up the Federal Commission for Securities and the Stock Market [Federalnaya komissiya po tsennym bumargam i fondovomy rynku] under the government of the Russian Federation, and also endorses a directive on this commission. The directive on the Commission for Securities and Stock Exchanges under the Russian Federation president is no longer in force.

First Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Anatoliy Chubays has been appointed to head the federal commission. The commission adopts provisions and instructions obligatory for the federal bodies of executive power, bodies of executive power of component parts of the federation, local government bodies and those operating in the securities market, on issues relating to the regulation of the securities market, the activities of those operating professionally in the securities market and their associations, and to monitoring the observance of legislative and law-making enactments. Regional commissions on securities and the stock market are to be set up. The federal commission is to manage the activities of the regional commissions.

The government of the Russian Federation has been instructed to confirm the members of the federal commission within one month. The federal commission must within three months establish a new procedure for licensing professional activities on the securities market,

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and for classifying and defining the types of all financial instruments. Within the same period the federal commission must draw up a draft federal law introducing amendments to the existing legislation on criminal and administrative liability; these amendments envisage that those operating in the securities market are liable for breaches of legislation on the securities market, and also for operating without a licence.

Previous decisions of the Russian Federation government and federal executive bodies remain valid in so far as they do not contravene this present edict.

Government To Repay Foreign Debt With Privatized Shares

LD0611160094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1436 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Russian government is developing a procedure for repaying the country's foreign debt with shares of privatized businesses. Sources in the State Property Committee told the Financial Information Agency that a draft presidential decree on the issue had already been submitted for consideration by government experts.

According to the sources, the main goal of the procedure is to convert Russia's foreign debt into a means of payment to be later used by foreign companies to purchase shares of Russian privatized businesses through auctions and tenders. In particular, the committee is developing such procedures to convert Russia's debts to Hungary, the Czech republic and Slovakia.

The sources said a similar procedure will be used for western countries and CIS states.

The Russian Economic Ministry said Russia's foreign debt has amounted to more than $80 billion. A total of $30 billion is to be chanelled to service the debts this year, though the Russian parliament set aside the maximum of $4.1 billion for these purposes.

FITUR Issues Decree on Protest Action Results

MM0711100194 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 1

[The Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia General Council Executive Committee decree "on the Results of the Trade Unions' 27 October 1994 all-Russian Protest Action: "This Action Will Have Long-Lasting Repercussions"—RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA headline]

[FBIS Translated Text] The FITUR [Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia] General Council Executive Committee decree "on the results of the trade unions' 27 October 1994 all-Russian protest action."

The trade unions' 27 October 1994 mass all-Russian protest action reflected all the acuteness of the socioeconomic tension in society, confirmed the justice of the demands which have been made, and showed the trade unions' resolve and solidarity in defending the working people's interests.

The FITUR General Council Executive Committee decrees:

1. By 10 November this year the coordination committee of solidary actions must send the Russian Federation president, Federal Assembly, and Government a generalized package of demands based on the results of the trade unions' all-Russian protest action.

2. FITUR Chairman M.V. Shmakov and the coordination committee for solidary actions must be instructed, over the course of November this year, to hold talks with the Russian federation Government and demand that by 1 December 1994 it adopt emergency measures ensuring the fulfillment of the demands made during the trade unions' 27 October protest action.

3. A proposal must be made to the Federal Assembly Federation Council and State Duma that they examine the working people's demands made during the trade unions' all-Russian protest action and make the relevant decisions to act on them.

FITUR Chairman M.V. Shmakov must be asked to give the Federal Assembly an account of FITUR's position on these questions.

4. Russian Federation President B.N. Yeltsin, as guarantor of the observance of our state's constitution, must be sent a FITUR address on the gross violation of the Russian working people's legal rights in the field of wages and the power structures' failure to take effective steps to prevent mass unemployment.

5. On 22 December this year a session of the FITUR General Council is to be held at which an assessment will be made of the results of the steps taken by the Russian Federation president, parliament, and government to act on the demands of the trade unions' 27 October 1994 all-Russian protest actions.

Proceeding from the results of the analysis the further tactics of FITUR's actions will be determined, including actions with regard to the social accord treaty.

6. It must be recommended to FITUR's member organizations that they make active use of the results of the trade unions' all-Russian protest action in the process of talks with employers and federal and local organs of power in elaborating and concluding sectorial wage scale and regional agreements for 1995.

The attention of the leaders of trade union organs and above all of trade union committee chairmen must be drawn to the need to step up demands on the leaders of enterprises, particularly enterprises not owned by the state, to fulfill legislative demands in the field of labor and wages.

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[signed] The FITUR General Council Executive Committee.

'Paper' Wages Disguise Increase in Poverty

MM0411152194 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 2

[Article by political observer Vitaliy Golovachev: "Millions of Millionaires and Millions of Paupers. September Wages as a Mirror of Our Economy"]

[FBIS Translated Text] After processing a huge quantity of data gathered by the services of the Russian State Committee for Statistics from all the country's enterprises and organizations, the exact amount of our citizens' average wage in September was learned—253,200 rubles [R]. One-fourth of a "lemon" [slang for R1 million during the period of hyperinflation in the early twenties]—it sounds splendid! The trouble is, however, that this "splendid" figure reflects the "paper" wages that appear only on plant and factory payrolls. In reality many working people have not received any money for months, and by 1 October arrears on work payments had reached the astronomic sum of R4.2 trillion.

This debt spoils the whole picture. The average wage in September increased by R20,000, while the arrears increased by R300 billion. How are positive and negative trends to be analyzed here? It turns out that in fact the average wage paid out increased not by R20,000 but by R15,500. All comparisons with the rate of inflation take on quite a different hue. If we approach the matter formally and take the "paper" wages recorded on the payrolls, it turns out that in September they appreciably outstripped prices in terms of the rate of growth. But if we take the money actually paid out, the picture is the direct opposite—prices grew faster. In the first instance it is possible to speak of a growth in living standards, in the second of a drop....

True, wages constitute only half of Russians' personal income. People might raise an objection, saying that, taking all incomes into account, the situation is not so dramatic. But here are impassive statistics: **In September 30 million citizens had incomes** (precisely incomes!) **below the subsistence minimum. At the same time over 10 million were unable to buy even the minimum food basket** needed to survive. Is this really not dramatic?

The situation deteriorated noticeably in a number of regions in September. In Pskov Oblast, for example, prices increased by 11 percent, while wages increased only 7 percent. This was despite the fact that the level of wages was already simply beggarly—R165,900. The rapid pace of price rises also outstripped the growth in wages by a factor of 1.5-2 times in Yaroslavl, Ulyanovsk, and a number of other oblasts. In anybody in the government and in the provinces analyzing the situation and the developing negative trends?

Living standards also fell in the capital: Prices here increased 10 percent in September, while wages increased only 6 percent. The average level of wages in September was R314,000—which is not all that much for such an expensive city as Moscow.

Light industry is in the most calamitous position. Here the average wage (R129,700) only just exceeds the sad line of survival—the minimum permissible subsistence level, which in September stood at an average of R103,800 for an able-bodied person. This means that it is becoming an impossible problem in a family to feed, clothe, and shoe a child. In general, many textile workers' families, particularly in Ivanovo, are leading a half-starving life.

At the other "pole" stand banking and many commercial structures and insurance companies, i.e. the credit and insurance sphere. Here the average wage (including cleaners and ancillary workers) approaches R500,000 a month, while the full income of an ordinary working person runs, as a rule, to several million.

The average wage in Chukotka, for gas industry workers in Krasnoyarsk Kray and Tyumen Oblast, and at a number of oil-refining enterprises amounted to over R1 million in September.

As we see, the contrasts in pay are increasing. The press is increasingly frequently carrying reports that some enterprise chief is buying a luxurious multiroom villa somewhere in the Bahamas for vacations, while not paying working people their wages for many months. The trade unions—the heirs to the former All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions—look on such facts with Olympian calm. How could it be otherwise, since directors are also members of a trade union—even, maybe, the most influential members. It is a pity that trade union leaders are unwilling to understand that in the new conditions a trade union must defend hired workers (who alone must join the trade union), not directors or employers. I wish our old-new trade unions would not lag behind the times....

If we approach the dynamics of the September wages from purely theoretical positions, disregarding the increased debts, it would in principle be possible to note some positive points. The first question is this: Is September's nominal growth in wages justified in principle. Or, to put it another way: Has the money been earned? This time, so it seems to me, it is necessary to answer in the affirmative. Industrial production in September (in physical terms—numbers, meters, tonnes) exceeded August's level by 6 percent. So, taking inflation into account (7.2 percent), the September increase in the average wage can be considered perfectly normal.

There is another positive point too. Earnings in the nonproduction sphere, which is lagging behind in terms of wage levels, increased faster (10 percent) in September than in the sphere of physical production (8 percent). Working people in health care and science, for example, should have received over R190,000 in September. Not all that much, of course, but still some progress was in

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evidence here. Judging from the payrolls, wages increased appreciably—by R34,000—in education (chiefly thanks to seasonal payments). Although, even with this increment, their overall level remains low at R178,000.

In conclusion, about the distribution of wages among groups of the population. In September 5 million Russians had a wage of less than R50,000—half the subsistence minimum. How do these 5 million live, how do they exist? A further 10 million people received between R50,000 and R100,000 a month. These two groups account for one-fifth of all working people.

There was an increase in the wages of people of "average means" which can only be welcomed. The number of "millionaires" also increased. In August 1.5 million people received a wage of R1 million or more, and in September the total was 2 million. Of course, if we take not the wage alone but the full income, we will end up with somewhat more millionaires—according to my calculations, 6-8 million. There is no denying that a "lemon" today is no longer such a large sum of money. If it were not for the vast army of poor people who receive pitiable sums....

Average September Wage in Sectors and Regions of the Country

In the national economy as a whole	R253,200
all of industry	R258,200
the gas industry	R861,200
light industry	R129,700
machine building and metalworking	R193,800
the oil-extracting industry	R582,400
the coal industry	R490,000
agriculture	R144,600
transportation	R383,200
health care, physical culture, and social security	R191,100
education	R178,100
culture and art	R155,900
science and scientific services	R192,300
credit and insurance	R437,700
apparatus of management organs	R330,800
Moscow	R314,000
Ivanovo Oblast	R158,500
Vladimir Oblast	R170,000
Bryansk Oblast	R169,000
Chukotsk Autonomous Okrug	R1,100,000
Magadan Oblast	R738,000
Tyumen Oblast	R639,000

Military & Space Issues

Grachev on Burlakov's Dismissal

LD0611222294 Moscow NTV in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Nov 94

[Interview with Defense Minister Pavel Grachev by Yevgeniy Kiselev on the "Itogi" program; place and date not given—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Kiselev] Tell me, Pavel Sergeyevich, did you know that the president was to sign a decree suspending General Burlakov from office before it was published?

[Grachev] Yes, I did know. I knew on the day that the decree concerning General Burlakov's suspension from office was due to be signed. He had come to me several times. We had talked about things, conferred specifically on his initiative, and we came to a decision to apply to the president for him to be suspended from office until the truth is known. I set out the essence of the problem and Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin concurred and signed the decree.

[Kiselev] So you had a special discussion with Boris Nikolayevich about this?

[Grachev] Yes, we discussed it in advance, three days or so before it was signed.

[Kiselev] In an interview with IZVESTIYA on 25 October you said that you would resign if you felt that you had lost the confidence of the president, or even if any reason for loss of confidence arose. What are your feelings today?

[Grachev] At the present moment my feeling is one of full confidence in me on the part of the president, since he and I are in touch every day. I report to him at 1000 every morning on the situation in the armed forces, and in these conversations with Boris Nikolayevich I have not up to now noticed even the slightest suggestion of any lack of confidence in me. On the contrary, when we discuss things he always supports me.

[Kiselev] Will you be speaking in the State Duma? There has been some doubt on this.

[Grachev] [chuckles] Of course, I will; I'm simply obliged to.

[Kiselev] And you are not afraid that the question of the so-called—as you have put it—corruption in the Western Group of Forces will be raised?

[Grachev] No, I'm not afraid. The fact is that, as far as I am aware, a few days after my speech, it is planned to hear Burlakov on the subject of corruption in the Western Group of Forces. And I have nothing to fear, because I haven't hidden anything. On the contrary, I have demanded that all negative things and all crimes that have taken place should indeed be passed on to the appropriate bodies, that investigations be carried out,

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and that criminal or administrative proceedings be instigated against all the culprits, irrespective of whether they be generals or privates. I have nothing to fear.

You know, the removal of Burlakov from office, also entails ensuring that the corresponding bodies and, if necessary, the corresponding groups should be instructed to carry out additional checks. You see, it may be that we will wait two—a maximum of three—months. Then Burlakov may sue, he may bring an action.

[Kiselev] Excuse me, against who?

[Grachev] Against who? Against the slanderers, whose names—they have already become obvious—those who are saying that there is corruption in the western group of troops which has not been brought to light.

[Kiselev] And how long will we have to wait?

[Grachev] I will tell you directly that at the moment the investigation group is not operating because Ilyushenko has said that there are no facts to work on. Other structures are not operating. I still have not seen or heard that any group of deputies has been appointed to investigate the facts. But time has passed, we have already fixed the time.

[Kiselev] Do you still completely trust General Burlakov as you used to, and do you believe he is not involved in any of the facts that are being claimed in the media?

[Grachev] Yevgeniy Alekseyevich, there are no facts that....

[Kiselev] There have been claims....

[Grachev] No, there are no claims. All of this is unsubstantiated, all this is general. Therefore, until something new—I repeat this again—new is revealed,—and I am certain that nothing new will be revealed—yes, I trust Gen. Burlakov. Otherwise, I would not have asked him to take up the office of deputy defense minister.

[Kiselev] But did you, in fact, ask him?

[Grachev] Yes, it was in fact I who asked him, because he is a man....

[Kiselev] And you convinced the president that he should be appointed?

[Grachev] Well, how could I convince the president? I went to the president with a recommendation that there was a need to appoint him for that period while the troops which are being withdrawn from the Western Group of Forces and other regions from the near and far abroad were still being resettled. This was a time-frame of two to three years. Burlakov has an enormous amount of experience in the troop withdrawal, in communications with chiefs of administrations, construction and other contractors who are responsible for building accommodation for servicemen. And I trusted that this was the person who could give me the most effective assistance in speedily resolving this social problem.

[Kiselev] And were you not perplexed by the fact the council had a different view of the personnel policy, and objections were voiced against the Burlakov candidature.

[Grachev] The fact is, I know the person better than the journalists who covered the actions of the Western Group of Forces and of Burlakov personally. I know him better than the Council too. Incidentally, the Council was split on Burlakov.

[Kiselev] Right after the tragic death of the correspondent Dmitriy Kholodov, you said in the two interviews you gave on the same day, to IZVESTIYA and to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, that you were sure the murder had been organized to smear your name and to force your resignation. In particular, the aim of the crime, you said, was to destroy the main intelligence directorate of the Russian Army. You said that you were conducting an investigation into the incident using your own channels, and that the main intelligence directorate, had their own thoughts as to who was behind it. Have you got an answer to this question?

[Grachev] Yes, I have an answer.

[Kiselev] Who is it then?

[Grachev] I am telling you that we do not want to run ahead of the investigation.

[Kiselev] But who do you have in mind? Is it some sort of forces? [Grachev sighs] You know, as they used to be described in the past: foreign special services of imperialist powers, certain circles, etc. Or do you have specific people in mind?

[Grachev] I do not wish to besmirch the honor and merit of these people, but I have two specific names.

[Kiselev] Two specific names?

[Grachev] Yes.

[Kiselev] In the country or abroad?

[Grachev] In the country.

[Kiselev] And what about the GRU [Main Intelligence Directorate] chief's [Col-Gen Fedor Ladygin] words about foreign figures being involved here?

[Grachev] Yes, one really can assume that foreign figures, special bodies are involved here. The fact of the matter is that one can point to the GRU only if prompted by an important and influential person from abroad. The fact of the matter is that the GRU is really now the main state instrument for obtaining precise information about the situation in the world.

[Kiselev] Is it the GRU, and what about [FSK chief Yevgeniy] Primakov, won't he take offence? [words indistinct]

[Grachev] Why should he take offense? [words indistinct] Primakov is working in his field and we are

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working in ours. A great deal of information passes through the GRU to me and to the president and that information is subsequently confirmed. Do you see? So I can judge the GRU's activities. So if a blow is struck at the GRU, if the GRU collapses, that will be enough for an information vacuum to form in the state. General Ladygin drew his conclusion on the basis of this.

[Kiselev] Nevertheless, as far as I can tell, you are inclined to think that certain forces inside our country are behind this?

[Grachev] Absolutely. The fact of the matter is that they want to strike a blow at the army. Everybody can see that despite the difficulties the army has rallied together. There hasn't been any segmentation in the army—that is the most terrible thing. The army, in principle, is hungry, barefoot, and underfinanced but it is fulfilling its main role of guaranteeing security. The army stands in the way of those who aspire to power. It must be smashed. It must be disbanded. It must be dismembered. This is what it is all about.

[Kiselev] You say that the army has rallied. But from time to time there are outbursts that very often are connected with the name of Lt.-Gen. Lebed who, on the one hand, does not bear witness to solidarity, and on the other hand, the question arises—an army commander somewhere far away from Moscow states publicly that the deputy defense minister is a common criminal who has all of Russia's procurator in tears. Why isn't this followed up by anything?

[Grachev] What do you mean?

[Kiselev] Any punishment. Yes, his punishment.

[Grachev] You know, I am not like [MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS editor Pavel] Gusev who holds a press conference 15 minutes after an explosion has occurred. Burlakov and I were quite cool about that. Checks will be carried out.

Burlakov's guilt or innocence will be established, and if he is proven innocent, the most serious punishment will be given out to Gen. Lebed, for discrediting a top Defense Ministry official, all the more so in that Burlakov is Lebed's commanding officer.

[Kiselev] He in effect prevented him from carrying out an inspection, then?

[Grachev] Why no, certainly not, that's mere slander! How could Lebed prevent someone from carrying out an inspection, if I give such an order? He would be immediately removed from his post and dismissed to the reserve. It does not happen in the army that an order is given....

[Kiselev, interrupting] There have been reports to that effect.

[Grachev] I tell you straight, there was no....

[Kiselev, interrupting] So there was no inspection trip, and none was planned?

[Grachev] There has been no inspection tour of the 14th Army this year. As for Lebed, he works pretty well, especially given that the collective is small, only 3,500 men. You know, when I was commander of the 103rd Airborne Assault Division, there were more men, about 9,000. And when I was deputy commander and then commander of the Airborne Assault Division, I was popular. I got nothing but praise!

[Kiselev] Do you believe that Lebed really is popular now in officer circles?

[Grachev] Well, if he is popular, then it's in the 14th Army, the other troops don't know him. And you know, it was a number of journalists who made him popular. He has become a bit arrogant and really fancies himself as some big shot, but as far as his work goes, I have no criticisms to make. But our society is evidently so politicized that everyone fancies himself as a politician and this evidently influenced Aleksandr Ivanovich Lebed: perhaps he's thinking of a political career for himself in the future. That's his own affair.

As for the cohesiveness of the army, I want to show viewers just a small bundle of telegrams that have come in and, I am sure, will continue to come in from army collectives, and personally from officers, warrant officers, the ranks, even from heads of administration, labor collectives ,and inhabitants as a sign of unity and support for the Armed Forces and the defense minister. Nothing was written to dictate, at no one's command—how can one give an order to worker Ivan Petrovich to send a coded telegram, for example!

[Kiselev] But how can a worker send a coded telegram?

[Grachev] Well, not a coded telegram but a letter, sorry, you're right! I don't know whether there is perhaps no support in the places I don't go to, but somehow or other wherever I visit there is full support there. I took a special trip to the Far East. I visited, what I regard as hot spots, the places where I thought I would be torn apart. And yet when I arrived in Iturup, I got their full support. In Southern Sakhalin and Kamchatka, I got full support too. In the forgotten land of the Trans-Baykal steppes, close to the Mongolian border, I am also supported. So where am I not being supported?

[Kiselev] Pavel Sergeyevich, army people have to do very many things on instruction and, as they say, under order. When a chief commands his subordinates to give support to the minister they will do so. Any letter, any telegram might be drawn up that way, if the chief of a district, regiment, or a division commands to do so. These things happen. After all, there is such a thing, as army hierarchy and respect for it. Moreover there will be desire to flatter the defense minister in a garrison or a unit which he happened to visit first time in ages.

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[Grachev] Do I deny it? Everything is possible. And there have been instances of certain things having been written under order. I do not deny that some letters and telegrams were written under order. But you see the fact is, every action bears a reaction. That is unequivocal.

[Kiselev] Regarding the fact whether you are popular in the troops. Are you familiar with the survey that is now widely quoted in the media: the survey carried out by the West German Foundation Ebert-Stiftung.

[Grachev] I know about it. There have been allegations that a survey of some 517 servicemen of several military districts has been carried out....

[Kiselev, interrupting] Officers and generals?

[Grachev continuing] First, there has been no such survey because foreigners are allowed access to military formations only with the personal permission of the accountable unit commander. That is the first thing. Second, foreigners and Germans who were supposed to have carried out the survey must not be, I think, trusted one hundred percent. You have seen for yourself what the survey said: We worked in the units of such and such military districts. I must be told properly, which unit was visited, which commanders, and what officers took part in the survey.

[Kiselev] So that you could chop their heads off?

[Grachev] Why on earth should I? What are you talking about? Whose head have I ever chopped off for telling the truth. Let the officer whose head I have chopped off for telling the truth come and see me. Never! Germans? Survey? My advice to them is that they should do surveys in their own Bundeswehr.

[Kiselev] So, you are not inclined to believe even in the fact of such a survey, are you?

[Grachev] No, I do not believe it. And I have now banned foreign sociologists from surveying the opinions of Russian servicemen. We have enough of our own competent sociologists in Russia who can carry out any sociological poll, not any worse than the Germans.

[Kiselev] But would you allow us, the "Itogi" program, to carry out such a survey if we ask for it?

[Grachev] Absolutely, absolutely. Yevgeniy Alekseyevich, I am calling on everybody to come with me or to go without me anywhere they like. The airplane is at hand. Just point your finger on the map, and we will go to that place. This is my invitation for you to arrange a survey. I have no fears. Go and see our troops.

[Kiselev] Thank you, Pavel Sergeyevich, for your interview.

I do not know how the viewers feel about what he said. After a two hour interview with Pavel Grachev, I had the impression that although the general tried to appear confident he was nervous and inwardly unsure about the solidity of his position. Perhaps nobody can [words indistinct] some observers discern a certain populist approach in the latest personnel decisions of the president, and desire to gain the support of the public opinion. Meanwhile the defense minister is not enjoying popularity in society. This has been shown many times by polls. As to General Grachev's popularity in the army, I would not support unequivocally the view he expressed in the interview regarding the information on this subject published by the Ebert Stiftung. Let us take into account the fact that the Ebert Stiftung has a reputation of one of the most esteemed and prestigious scientific organizations in the world. It would hardly want to jeopardize its prestige by inaccurate or falsified results of their surveys.

Lack of Grachev's popularity may prompt the president to appoint another defense minister. Equally, those who argue that Grachev will not resign in the immediate future may also be right. The president needs control over the army and especially over the defense ministry. After all in the two years Grachev has stayed in the Arbat square building, he has developed a strong position in that department.

But it is up to the president whether he wants Grachev resigned. As to the assumption that Grachev has no replacement, as some believe, media and political circles have been putting forward a different view. The most frequent name coming across in this context is that of Boris Gromov. He is a former commander of the 40th Army which fought in Afghanistan and is therefore very popular in the armed forces. General Gromov is known as politically cautious, who is both loyal to the defense minister and quite detached. Since the time when he was a member of parliament, Gromov has had broad political connections. This is an obvious plus too.

First Deputy Defense Minister, Andrey Kokoshin, is the most intellectual and the most educated at the top of the military department. He has broad political connections. He has close connections in the military and industrial complex. His obvious minus is that he is a civilian and may not be accepted by the army as a minister.

General Mikhail Kolesnikov, the head of the General Staff, is known outside the army considerably less than any other candidate. Being cautious, he has never made any loud political statements. He has the reputation of an honest and authoritative person in the specific world of former Staff officers.

General Andrey Nikolayev, the commander of border troops, used to be the first deputy of Mikhail Kolesnikov. Perhaps, he is Pavel Grachev's most serious contender. His advantages include the high political status of a member of the Security Council and the fact that at least until recently he has been openly favored by Boris Yeltsin. Being the commander of the border troops, he is the only person among all the contenders who does not depend on the defense minister. General Nikolayev comes from a military family. He is an intellectual. This

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is not necessarily an advantage of course. In addition, he is the only high ranking military person who might agree to change his uniform for a civilian suit and to become the first civilian defense minister. True, Andrey Nikolayev has great plans for reforming the federal border troops and he might simply refuse a transfer to a military department.

Gen Lebed Says Grachev Must Resign To Face Accusers

LD0511154394 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 1455 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army, says that the current Russian defense minister has been slandered to such an extent that he simply must resign. Aleksandr Lebed said in an interview with Ekho Moskvy radio that it would only be after resignation that Grachev could deal with his many accusers. General Lebed also refuted rumors on his possible appointment as minister of defense.

Training of Militants in North Caucasus Denied

LD0511143194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1416 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 5 TASS—Colonel- General Vladimir Semyonov, commander-in-chief of Russian Land Forces, denied reports that militants are trained at the Prudboy shooting range in the North Caucasian Military District.

"No militants have been or are being trained either for Chechen or some other opposition at any shooting range of the land forces," Semyonov told ITAR-TASS on Saturday.

He said land units accomplish tasks aimed at upholding national interests and the security of the state. Attempts to denigrate them are viewed as a way to draw them into political "games", Semyonov said.

General Semyonov's remarks were prompted by a new wave of articles about an alleged training of a group of Chechen opposition militants at the Prudboy shooting range, 60 kilometres from Volgograd.

Despite a denial by the press centre of land forces, a number of publications still stick to the "expository theme" thereby questioning the veracity of statements both by official bodies and Russian Defence Ministry officials.

Decommissioning Submarines To 'Free Up' Nuclear Quotas

MM0711084594 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Federal Counterintelligence Service Plants 'Poplar'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Sergey Stepashin, director of the Federal Counterintelligence Service, visited the "Plesetsk" missile test range and space center and the Severodvinsk Nuclear Shipbuilding Center 2-4 November. At a press conference it transpired that, under signed international treaties (START II and others), Russia is to give up a certain number of its nuclear delivery vehicles and warheads. The recycling of a number of old missile submarines will, quite clearly, make it possible to free up the required "nuclear quotas" for the implementation of promising missile programs. It is a question both of Navy programs and of the land-based "Topol" [poplar] missile system.

Top-Secret Scientist on Future of Strategic Rocket Forces

MK0411124094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Andrey Vaganov in the "Exclusive" column: "Russia Retains Operational Control of All Nuclear Missiles of the Former USSR. The Central Science and Research Institute of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry Considers Various Options"]

[FBIS Translated Text] There are many epithets including the word "most" that are applicable to the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces. The youngest: They will be 35 years old in December; the smallest among the army branches; the most "economical:" Annually 5-7 percent of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry budget is spent on them; the most powerful: At present the Strategic Rocket Forces have more than 60 percent of Russia's nuclear charges, and they are also the most intellectual forces. That this is no exaggeration I could see for myself, having visited the 4th Central Science and Research Institute [TsNII] of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry in the city of Bolshevo just outside Moscow.

The main objective of this leading research establishment of the Strategic Rocket Forces is the provision of operational and strategic substantiation for the employment of nuclear rockets. Until recently, access to this top secret place to an outsider, let alone a journalist, was absolutely closed. NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's staffers were among the first mass media representatives the Strategic Rocket Forces Command allowed to visit the TsNII.

According to Professor Vladimir Dvorkin, TsNII chief, major general, and doctor of technology, there are now 1,500 research officers working at the institute (average statistical rank: lieutenant colonel), and approximately 1,000 civilians. These include 30 doctors and 500 candidates of sciences. These specialists in their time developed possible scenarios for large- scale combat actions, with probable opponents being NATO and the USSR. Today, according to Dvorkin, much attention has to be given to regional scenarios: "Regional conflicts are of interest to us from the viewpoint of the survivability of

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nuclear rocket forces because we believe that losses of strategic nuclear forces in conventional war are unacceptable." Moreover, provisions have to be made for the possibility of mass destruction weapons appearing in third countries. "In this event, if irrational regimes are in power there," Vladimir Dvorkin stressed, "we must have the possibility to threaten some selective local action. That is, if it is at all possible to deter irrational regimes in the first place."

To address the tasks before TsNII specialists, the institute has a powerful experimental and computer base. In front of me, an attack by heavy enemy bombers on our missile silo complex was simulated on a computer. Measures for possible counteraction, and their effectiveness, are reviewed simultaneously. All factors are taken into account in the process: from the political and economic situation in the aggressor state to the technical specifications of its rocket systems. The institute even has its own linear accelerator which can speed up electrons to the energy of 7 megaelectron-volts. In fact, the accelerator is an electrophysical model of a ground nuclear blast; in particular, it can generate a powerful beam of heavy X-ray, electromagnetic and gamma radiation.

Such experimental equipment allows not only to upgrade the existing rocket armaments but also to conduct research on creating weapons based on new physical principles: laser, particle-beam, and microwave weapons.

Today, however, main attention in the institute is concentrated on developing the first Russian intercontinental ballistic missile, Topol-M. Again this will primarily be an "intelligent" missile, capable of penetrating massive ABM systems. Several hundred Russian enterprises and organizations are involved in a cooperation project to develop this ICBM.

I asked Vladimir Dvorkin to which extent Ukraine can ensure the operational control of nuclear forces located on its territory. After all, is has more than just once been reported in the press that Ukraine specialists are developing their own codes to ensure access to nuclear rocket control.

"Indeed, there have been such reports," Maj. Gen. Dvorkin said. "But there have never been any attempts in Ukraine to take over control of nuclear rocket forces. We know this very well because we are still linked with Ukraine's rocket building enterprises. Theoretically this is possible. But only theoretically. It will take much time and money, which Ukraine does not have. Ukraine would not be able to effect the full cycle of development, existence, and operation of nuclear weapons even if such decisions were made. Apart from other things, rocket modernization and flight testing are necessary: Without this no weapons can be adopted for service. Ukraine is in no position to conduct flight tests: It has no experimental base for it. Ukraine only exercises administrative control of rocket forces. But operational control rests with Russia, with the Main Strategic Rocket Forces Command."

From NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's files

Today Russia has several types of rocket complexes:

approximately 180 SS-18 stationary-based missiles—the largest ICBM's in the world, carrying 10 warheads each; launch weight: 211 tonnes;

160 SS-19 missiles: 6 warheads, launch weight: more than 100 tonnes;

36 railway-launched solid propellant ICBM's with multiple warheads;

approximately 350 mobile ground-launched single-warhead Topol missiles.

Radio Commentary on State of Armed Forces

LD0411180194 Moscow Voice of Russia World Service in English 1210 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It is expected that next week, the Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev will appear before deputies of the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian parliament. (?Formally) he is due to speak on the moral and psychological climate in the armed forces. However the defense minister's speech will cover a wider spectrum of issues, especially on the now widely discussed state of the armed forces.

Commentator Vyacheslav Solovyev points out that what is at stake is the wave of publications containing accusations of corruption and other abuses of authority against the higher echelon of the Russian army. In all probability the issues of the economic situation in the army, its recuitment policy, relationship of all the branches of government towards the army including relationship between the fourth estate of the realm, the press and the army, will all be discussed.

In principle whatever conclusions may be drawn from the outcome of the parliamentary hearings on the situation in the armed forces, the main conclusion will be that all the ills in the armed forces can be traced to the absence of real reforms in the army. In spite of the fact that this may sound rather harsh, such a conclusion is confirmed by the fact that in September this year, President Boris Yeltsin, agreeing with the postulate that any system, including the Defense Ministry, cannot reform itself, directed that a civilian commission to reorganize the armed forces be set up.

Officially the Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and the chairman of the Russian Security Council, Oleg Lobov, are co- chairmen of the commission and it is expected that the commission will complete its assignment by the end of November, after which a draft of a decree on the reformation in the armed forces

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will be presented to the Russian president for confirmation. And there's no sense in opposing radical military reforms in Russia. Russia today is simply not in a position to continue to maintain the military- industrial complex and the armed forces, which were created for a superpower. That's precisely why the military reforms have a priority significance for Russia's survival, as do economic and political reforms.

Unfortunately the Defense Ministry, having concentrated on a decision on such an important issue like the withdrawal of troops from the far and near abroad and resettling them in Russia, has delayed the carrying out of a comprehensive reform in the armed forces. It should be believed that the intensified public attention to the goings on in the army of the recent times will not serve to weaken the army or to discredit the armed forces, as has been suggested by certain military men, but rather as a real nudging towards overdue restructuring.

Bye the way the general contour of such a reform is common knowledge and in principle is not attracting any serious objection. The issues at stake here are: establishing effective civilian control over the armed forces; reorganizing the armed forces with a view to eliminating overlapping; transforming the army from forced recruitment to professionalism; and turning mass production of obsolete weapons into a progressive, high-class system.

The first step toward making the Russian army a more professional and competent one should be the 1995 budget. For the first time in many decades, the government is deciding how much the army can spend, and this is going to be less than 5 percent of the Gross national product. There are also plans to reduce the number of the army by half a million in one year, and this will make it simply impossible to keep the armed forces at their present, unreformed, level.

ITAR-TASS Carries Parameters of 'Resurs-01' Satellite

LD0411172994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1642 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Gritsenko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 4 TASS—The third Resurs-01 spacecraft was launched by the Russian aero-space force at 08:46 (Moscow time) today. The spacecraft carried by the Zenit-2 rocket booster is meant for prospecting the earth's natural resources, sources at the aero-space force's press center told ITAR-TASS.

The satellite was put on the solar-synchronized orbit with the following parameters:

—the period of rotation 98 minutes;

—the inclination of the orbit 98 degrees;

—the maximum distance from the earth surface (in the apogee) 691.4 kilometers;

—the minimum distance from the earth surface (in the perigee)—663.8 kilometers.

The satellite is controlled by the ground mission control center which is part of the aero-space force.

Regional Affairs

Norilsk Freezing as 'Stalin's Turbines' Blow

MM0411163794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Aleksey Tarasov: "Norilsk Accident Leaves Whole City Without Heat or Water"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Winter has already come to the Arctic—that is not news—nor is the fact that winter has again come as a surprise and a natural disaster for us. But you can joke about this anywhere, only not in Siberia. A major accident in Norilsk has again highlighted a point that is obvious to Northerners themselves and, clearly, behind the Kremlin's comprehension—Moscow's Northern policy has already gone beyond the bounds of reason. You get the impression that the Russian Government actually lives and rules somewhere on the Fijian islands or on the Tuamotu archipelago rather than in a country where two-thirds of the territory is in the Arctic.

Just what has happened? On the evening of 3 November a turbine that had been in operation since 1945 blew up at the No. 1 TETS [heat and electric power station]. A fire broke out. Sergey Yakunin, a 35-year-old turbine engineer, was taken to the hospital with first-degree burns. Due to damage to a cable gantry, half of the city was deprived of power. The accident also affected the heating network. Water pumps ground to a halt. As a result, all of Norilsk is without heat and water.

The average temperature on 3 November was minus 22, falling to minus 27 at night.

The fire was put out on 3 November. On Friday morning, IZVESTIYA was told by Sergey Rakhimov, deputy general director of the Norilsk Mining and Metallurgical Combine and head of the "Norilsksbyt" Production Association, that cold water was already flowing again in apartments but that the hot water could only be called hot by a large stretch of the imagination—its temperature was 22 degrees. Unlike the nine-story blocks, vital services were restored to five-story apartment blocks on the morning of 4 November, but were "under pressure." But there had been cases of systems freezing up on landings and in individual apartments. Clearing up the effects of the accident would depend on the progress of restoration work at the TETS (the work is currently continuing), and life would become all the harder for the city as homes grew colder. Time would decide everything. Hours and minutes. Colder spells and increased winds were expected.

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Meanwhile, according to figures given to IZVESTIYA by the Ministry for Civil Defense Affairs, Emergency Situations, and Natural Disaster Relief's East Siberia regional center, temperatures in the overwhelming majority of apartments had risen from 10 degrees to 18 degrees by midday on 4 November. Meanwhile outside it was minus 21, with a southeasterly blowing at 7-10 meters per second. Power supplies were fully ensured.

Stalin's turbines did what was asked of them but Russia's attitude to Norilsk, like its attitude to the GULAG archipelago, will never be forgotten. The Norilsk industrial giant is not so much an economic as a political and psychological phenomenon. The kind of global experiment that the existence of this city-combine represents is possible only in a totalitarian regime which disregards the human factor or in an immensely rich state which disregards the cost. Stalin's Russia built Norilsk, for Brezhnev's Russia it was a milch cow, but now all of Russia ought to work for this Arctic colossus again, given its problems and needs. But is that possible?

The intellectual bankruptcy of Moscow's Northern policy consists not only in its inability to pursue a radical restructuring of the Arctic economy and raise a thick wall of state protectionism around the plants and settlements which Russia needs. The vigor with which the Moscow bosses implement reforms in Taymir using the same plans as in Stavropol Kray or the Altay, for example, is astonishing.

The Norilsk combine has been floated. At the first general shareholders' meeting everything which serves to increase the cost of output will be scrapped. When the Norilsk empire is private property, its main concern will be no longer the strategic interests of Russia but profit instead. What will happen to the city's municipal economy and social, cultural, and consumer services? Who is going to look after people whose needs, even the most fundamental needs of heat and light, are becoming increasingly difficult to satisfy? At the Norilsk administration I heard no guarantees, only assurances of excellent personal relations between the leadership of the combine and the city. Yes, northern people do not leave one another in the lurch. And until there are personnel changes in the combine's management that theme will remain more important than the profit motive. But what then?

The idea of the Norilsk combine as a pocket that you can dip into endlessly is a myth. The combine owed the city budget tens of billions (it is the same picture with the "Norilskiy Nikel" plant's debts to the kray and federal budgets). The question is how to keep it afloat. There is simply no money for the repair of the ramshackle communications and equipment installed back in Stalin's time.

Norilsk needs help and attention. Each accident brings this to mind. The catalog of accidents in recent years is daunting and the government should regard them as the Arctic region's bill to the center.

Stop Press. The situation in Norilsk, according to the officials, has passed its peak but remains difficult. At 1700 hours on 4 November the pumping situation in the water supply system could be characterized as operational but the temperature situation has not improved—it is 30 degrees against a norm of 97. All installations are being monitored by the operations and repair services and no buildings are completely frozen. Repair work is continuing at the TET's.

Greenpeace Claims New 'Major' Oil Spill Near Usinsk

LD0611172294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1613 GMT 6 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Nechayev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 6 Nov—The Russian branch of the international ecological organization "Greenpeace" stated today that there has been a new major oil spill in the Komi Republic 60-km north of Usinsk.

According to their data, another 13,000 tonnes of oil has spilled from the worn-out pipeline and been set on fire since last Thursday [3 November]. The fire has spread over a distance of 2 km. Greenpeace claims that it discovered a new oil spill on Friday.

At the Fuel and Power Engineering and Emergencies ministries, ITAR-TASS was told that they are unaware of a new oil spill.

Viktor Makarov, the ITAR-TASS correspondent in Syktyvkar, said that late last Thursday evening a spectral analysis of the pipeline was carried out from a special An-24 aircraft and, according to one of the heads of the operation, Yuriy Yemelyanov, no new oil spills were discovered.

At the same time, Makarov assumed that oil remaining in the old leaking section of the pipeline which was replaced by a new one had been set on fire. There is no other method of destroying fuel in old pipes. It is not ruled out that Greenpeace mistook this fire for a burning new oil spill.

Komi Spill Said No 'Ecological Catastrophe'

LD0411204294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1959 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Usinsk, the Komi Republic, November 4 TASS—An An-24 plane of the Mir State Scientific-Production Amalgamation completed today radar filming of the Usinsk oil spill area. The filming is part of special research of the Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations.

The filming results will soon be reported to the ministry, head of the research group Yuriy Yemelyanov told

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ITAR-TASS today. He said this will help to estimate the spill amount more precisely. According to various information, from 14,000 to 64,000 tonnes of oil-containing liquid spilled as result of the August-September accident at the Usinsk oil pipeline.

Aero-filming of the terrain has been done before. Space filming, spectrum research and laser scanning of the terrain will be done as well. According to the first results of the analysis, there is no ecological catastrophe in the area.

Cleanup Work Temporarily Halted

LD0511115594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1022 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Usinsk (Komi Republic), 5 Nov—Work to clear up oil spilled from the oil pipeline in the Komi Republic's Usinsk Rayon is temporarily halted beginning today. According to information from the Komineft joint stock company and the republican Headquarters for Civil Defense and Emergencies [HCDE], the first stage in the elimination of the aftereffects has been completed. Oil has been removed from three polluted areas accessible to vehicle transport. It has now been decided to wait for the frosts to "build" approach routes to polluted bogs and heavily waterlogged areas.

As an ITAR-TASS correspondent was informed at the HCDE, around 1,000 tonnes of spilled oil were collected in September and October from the Kolva and Usa Rivers and from the Palnik-Shor and Bezymyannyy streams and their banks. Over 1,500 tonnes of oil have been blocked up by special hydroseals. Another 11,500 tonnes of oil that leaked from the pipeline in August and September remain in a marshy area that is difficult to reach. During the first stage of the elimination of the aftereffects of the accident, a film of oil on the Kolva and Usa Rivers was removed. This work was done before the rivers froze over, and this is confirmed in the appropriate documents.

By decision of the Commission for Emergencies of the Komi Republic, preparations were also started today for a detailed comprehensive work plan for the second stage of the elimination of the aftermath of the accident on the oil pipeline near the town of Usinsk. Taking into account the considerable quantity of spilled oil remaining in the area and in streams, there is still a real threat of pollution of the Pechora basin during the future spring high water. Therefore the objective has been set of removing all oil remaining in the area and of completing work on the elimination of the aftermath of the accident before 1 April 1995.

Energy, Transportation Chiefs Confer in Vladivostok

MK0411123094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Dmitriy Karmanov, ADS, under the "Claims" rubric: "Maritime Kray Miners Confer With Power and Transport Workers. All Conferees Displeased With Finance and Defense Ministries"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday's conference of the chiefs of the "Rosugol," "Primorskugol," "Dalenergo" companies, and the Far Eastern Railroad at the Maritime Kray Administration was devoted to the problems of mutual nonpayments and federal debts. Its participants exchanged mutual complaints while all of them remained displeased with the Finance Ministry for delays in the transfer of budget state support funds. The Defense Ministry was cited among the persistent defaulters.

Anatoliy Vasyanovich, general director of "Primorskugol," advised that in 1994 coal production will be 11.3 million tonnes, or 57 percent of the 1987 level. Among the reasons for the slump are an obsolete coal mining support and technological base, the September and October natural disasters, as well as the fact that wages have not been paid to coal miners since August. Mr. Vasyanovich stated that unless the miners are paid their backlogged wages, they may announce a strike as of 10 November. The general director vouched that once all the above obstacles are removed, "Primorskugol" will be able to produce 17 to 18 million tonnes of coal in 1997-98. According to him, it is remarkable that this increase in production is possible even if money-losing pits are closed down.

'No Easy Solutions' to Tula Mines Impasse

MM0411160394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Sergey Zhdakayev: "Impasse at End of Coal Face. Sixteen Moskovskiy Coal Field Pits Strike"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tula Oblast—On the evening of 2 November, following exhausting negotiations with the leaders of the "Rosugol" concern and the "Tulaugol" joint-stock company, the trade union leaders of 16 pits belonging to the joint-stock company announced their decision: An indefinite strike was to begin in all mining collectives from 0000 hours on the following day.

The negotiations were held at the "Nikulinskaya" pit, which was the trigger for the general strike. Having finished their shift on 27 October 160 "Nikulinskaya" miners announced that they would not come up to the surface until the administration had paid their wages in full. The miners have received some of this money (the part due under the wage-rate agreement), but coal subsidies have not been paid since May. They indeed constitute the lion's share of the debt—around 900 million rubles [R].

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There is no cause for laying it on thick and whipping up emotions, "Nikulinskaya" Director A. Taranukh believes. People have received 60 percent of their pay, after all. But the miners are of a different opinion. "We are effectively living on credit," tunneler N. Spirikov says. "Formerly we helped our parents, now we ourselves are living off them. We are being fed on promises: The problem is reciprocal nonpayment, they say. But what does that have to do with miners? We have earned the money, so give it to us. How come they cannot resolve the nonpayment question? If they can't do the job, they shouldn't be in it."

"Nikulinskaya" was 15 years in construction. Its rated capacity is 2.1 million tonnes of coal per year. It was commissioned in 1986. And in 1987 568,000 tonnes were mined here. But this, as it happened, was the pit's shining hour. From that time production began to decline, and this year achieved a sad record. In the first 10 months of the year 1,100 men mined 142,000 tonnes.

The prime cause of this pitiful productivity rate, Valeriy Vinogradov, the pit's chief engineer, believes, lies in the designers' miscalculations and the difficult geological conditions. The pit is literally flooded—119 tonnes of water have to be pumped out in order to mine one tonne of coal.

Be that as it may, in the third quarter of this year the state paid the miners an extra R56,000 subsidy on every tonne of coal. In September the subsidy totaled R76,000, and the sale price was R23,000 per tonne. So for every tonne of coal a pit mines, it burns three. That is to say, the more it mines, the more money it buries in the ground.

To put it another way, ashamed to take money from the purse of his pensioner mother, the miner is doomed to take it from the budget, that is to say from the purse which belongs to all pensioners.

On the sixth day of the strike Leonid Zavodchikov, general director of the "Tulaugol" joint-stock company, and A. Fisun, deputy general director of the "Rosugol" concern, arrived at "Nikulinskaya" for talks with the strikers. A little later trade union leaders from "Tulaugol's" other pits arrived. The administration representatives did not come empty-handed, so to speak. L. Zavodchikov announced that money to pay wages had been partly received from Moscow, partly borrowed from the oblast budget, and in the next few days the strikers would receive around R1.5 billion. The leaders' entourage descended to the pit face with this news. But attempts to persuade the miners to come to the surface were unsuccessful. Talks continued after that in the pit's assembly hall.

First, the visitors announced, the government was already paying what it owed in subsidies. "Tulaugol" had already been issued R22 billion of the R122 billion in treasury notes, which could used to settle up with affiliated enterprises.

Second, the administration would undertake energetic measures to press the Ryazan State Regional Electric Power Station for the R5 billion that it owes the coal workers. If it succeeded, this sum would cover the entire sum of unpaid wages.

Third, a reproach was delivered: Within one year you have reduced productivity twofold, and the work force remains the same. You cannot work like that. Unprofitability must also have its limits.

Fourth, a warning: Given today's slump in production the government will be able to get along just fine without Moscow Oblast coal. This strike actually benefits it: It will save tens of billions of rubles in subsidies, and the only side to suffer will be the miners. The pits will decline, and miners will lose both their subsidies and their pay.

The trade union delegations heard out the bosses, and afterward enquired: Would the wages really be paid in full? Not receiving a positive answer, they announced that they were beginning an indefinite general strike, whereupon the participants in the negotiations went their separate ways.

It is hard to say whether the miners have any chance of victory, but it is clear that the labor conflict between miners and their employers is reaching a new level. The government remains hostage to its past mistakes and miscalculations. Not so much hostage even to mistakes as to the system. Hostage to the planned-expenditure economic machine, which continues to dig from dawn to dusk.

The simplest thing to do, of course, would be to mothball or close pits which bankrupt the budget. But the closure of just one pit costs significantly more than all the money owed in wages by the "Tulaugol" association. In other words, no easy solutions can be foreseen.

Yeltsin, Moscow Mayor Hold 'Businesslike' Meeting

LD0411175494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1506 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Numerous economic problems were discussed at the meeting of Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov. Luzhkov told INTERFAX that this business-like meeting was very important for Moscow. Nearly all the issues raised at the meeting were resolved. Luzhkov emphasized that the president had made specific decisions in Moscow's favor. Luzhkov said that the freezing of subsidies for Moscow to perform its functions as a capital had been discussed and a decision made which was in the interests of Moscow. The next step will be to make it an official document and carry through, he explained. Another issue was expansion of the ring road around Moscow which Luzhkov wants to be a four-lane highway. Luzhkov told Yeltsin that still another ring, 10 to 15 km farther from the existing one, had to be built to have less

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traffic on the ring and in Moscow. As the two men discussed food deliveries to Moscow, Luzhkov told Yeltsin that more customs duties had to be canceled to keep Moscow properly supplied. Yeltsin briefed Luzhkov on the findings of the Russian National Security Council commission investigating the collapse of the ruble on 11 October and sharply criticized numerous Moscow banks which, Luzhkov believes, abused and aggravated the situation. In Luzhkov's words, Yeltsin had endorsed the steps taken by the Moscow City Government to keep down the prices which had grown after 11 November.

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International Affairs

Kuchma Returns From Ashgabat, Signs 'Communique'

LD0511172094 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The official visit by Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma to Turkmenistan has ended. There were negotiations on a broad range of bilateral issues and on deepening mutual cooperation. Ukraine's Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko, Deputy Premier Ihor Mityukov, Secretary of the National Security Council Viktor Horbulin, Economics Minister Roman Shpek, Industry Minister Anatoliy Holubchenko, Minister of External Economic Relations Serhiy Osyka, Minister of Machine-Building, Military- Industrial Complex and Conversion Viktor Petrov, Chairman of the State Oil and Gas Committee Mykhaylo Kovalko and other officials took part in the negotiations on the Ukrainian side.

During the visit Leonid Kuchma had a meeting with Turkmenistan's President Saparmurad Niyazov. Jim Collins, the U.S. Administration's chief coordinator for CIS issues, who is currently in Ashgabat, was present at the meeting for some time. Much attention was paid to the deliveries of Turkmenistan-produced gas in 1995 and the settlement of Kiev's debt for the gas imported in previous years. The presidents signed a joint communique on the outcome of the negotiations, protocols on opening embassies and on an exchange of the instruments of ratification of the treaty on friendship and cooperation between Ukraine and Turkmenistan.

Agreements on the procedure of settlement for the deliveries of natural gas in 1994, on restructuring the state debt of Ukraine to Turkmenistan for 1993 and on free trade and production cooperation were signed with the participation of members of Ukraine's delegation.

Masol, Mazaheri Meet, Plan To 'Expand' Ties

LD0611110094 Tehran IRNA in English 0957 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, 6 Nov (IRNA)—Iranian Ambassador to Ukraine Behzad Mazaheri and the Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol Saturday [5 November] in Kiev called for further expansion of bilateral ties and cooperation.

In the meeting, the Ukrainian prime minister referred to the potentials of the Islamic Republic of Iran and underlined the need for upgrading bilateral cooperation in general, oil and natural gas in particular.

The two sides also reviewed regional and international developments and expressed their satisfaction over the present level of cooperation between the two countries.

At the end of the meeting the Ukrainian prime minister said he was willing to visit Iran in a near future at the head of a joint economic commission to discuss Tehran-Kiev bilateral economic cooperation.

Lvov Oblast Committee Opens Office in Moscow

AU0511175994 Lvov ZA VILNU UKRAYINU in Ukrainian 27 Oct 94 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Ukraine's Agency in Moscow"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Lvov Oblast Committee of the Ukrainian Nationalist Assembly [UNA] published a statement that says that while everybody in Ukraine spoke about "Moscow's agents," UNA-UNSO [Ukrainian National Self-Defense] has seen to it that Ukraine's agents are accommodated in Moscow.

Following a fruitful and constructive visit by Andriy Shkil, chairman of the UNA Lvov Oblast Committee, and Ostap Kozak, chairman of the Information Center "UNA-West," a regional committee of the Ukrainian Nationalist Assembly, was opened in Moscow. This was stated by the "UNA-West" information center.

CSCE Official Recognizes Crimea as 'Integral'

LD0411232694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1704 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya for TASS]

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 4 Nov—"Crimea is an autonomy within the Ukraine and the solution to the Crimean issue should be based on the principle of the Ukrainian territorial integrity and in line with its Constitution and laws," Max van der Stoel, CSCE high commissioner for ethnic minorities, said at a news conference in Kiev today. He said that during his meetings in Kiev with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, Supreme Council Chairman Aleksandr Moroz, and other leaders he was convinced they wanted to continue talks between Kiev and Simferopol in order to achieve a mutually advantageous compromise.

"Ukraine recognizes the autonomy of Crimea as part of its territory and tries to resolve all contentious issues peacefully so that the Crimean Constitution and laws are brought into line with the Ukrainian Constitution and laws," Max van der Stoel said. "I see it as my task and the task of the CSCE experts to help create the conditions for resolving this issue," he said.

Shmarov Cites Yeltsin 'Promise' on BSF Talks

LD0511182594 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—During the meeting in Moscow between the presidents of Ukraine and Russia, Boris Yeltsin promised that the Russian side should make a compromise so as to resolve the Black Sea Fleet issue as soon as possible. Valeriy Shmarov, Ukraine's defense minister and deputy premier for issues of the

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military-industrial complex, stated this at a meeting with representatives of the mass media at the editorial office of the UKRAYINA MOLODA newspaper.

According to the chief of the military department of Ukraine, Moscow's stance at the bilateral negotiations on the Black Sea Fleet issue remains rather tough. As far as the issue of basing the two fleets is concerned, the delegations "did not move forward but even made a slow retreat." Ukraine's defense minister emphasized that the Ukrainian side was inclined to make compromises that would not go beyond the bounds of the state's interests.

A high official of the Ukrainian president's administration, commenting on the prospects of uncompromising talks on the Black Sea Fleet, did not rule out the possibility of "freezing" them for quite a while by mutual consent. According to him, neither president in the near future will agree to radical concessions, because "such steps could be suicidal for both Kuchma and Yeltsin."

Masol Refutes Press Report on BSF Transfer

LD0411191494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1540 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol refuted information of the agency ITAR-TASS distributed on November 3 in which the agency refers to the statement of the head of the Ukrainian government about the decision to transfer part of the Ukrainian share of the Black Sea Fleet ships to Russia as a payment of Ukraine's debt for oil and gas. "I have not given any interviews, I have not met with anybody, and I have not discussed such issues," Masol declared in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine on Friday morning. On Thursday the press service of the Cabinet of Ministers also refuted the information of the Russian agency in an interview with Ukrainian television.

Cabinet Rules on Future Gas, Oil Payments

LD0411180394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1533 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By BUSINESS-TASS]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 4 TASS—The Ukrainian cabinet ruled on Friday, that the "Slavutich" financial and industrial concern will pay for the gas and oil to be supplied from Russia to Ukraine in the fourth quarter of 1994 and in 1995.

Ukrainian representation of the "Gazprom" Russian joint stock company is ready to give help to all organizations (including granting of credits), which are prepared to pay for the Russian gas, said representation's manager Nikolay Ishutin.

Ishutin recalled, however, that "Gazprom" has already concluded 20 contracts with Ukrainian commercial structures, which committed themselves to pay for the imported gas on time, but failed to keep their word.

Shcherbak Cites Economics as 'Priority' Issue

LD0411165094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1358 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Mikhail Melnikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev November 4 TASS—"Economic matters will assume priority in relations between Ukraine and the United States. The quest of investors now assumes special importance", Yuriy Shcherbak, Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, said in an interview to the newspaper KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI on Friday. Shcherbak was appointed to this post on October 22. Prior to that he was Ukraine's ambassador to Israel. On October 6 [date as received] Shcherbak flies to Washington.

The ambassador believes that relations with a superpower as the United States are among top priorities of Ukraine's foreign policy. He highly appraises everything that has been achieved in Ukrainian- American relations over the past three years. At the same time it is necessary to look for more effective approaches to the implementation of Ukraine's policy considering the fulfilment of the already signed international agreements.

Shcherbank believes "a new historic stage of the development of Ukraine's independence" began this year. The proclamation of the programme of reforms in Leonid Kuchma's address to the parliament was a milestone. Shcherbank believes this factor will be decisive in the work of Ukrainian diplomats.

National Affairs

Simonenko Speaks in Opposition to Reforms

LD0511145794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1327 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The leader of the Ukrainian Communist Party Petr Simonenko opposes President Kuchma's plans for reform.

"The domestic developments demand that the left-wing forces do their utmost to make the Supreme Soviet and president carry out reforms for the purpose of raising the people's living standards, and not to rob the people," Simonenko said Friday evening in Kiev.

Simonenko was addressing a meeting that was arranged by the Communist, Socialist and Farmers' Parties for the celebration of an anniversary of the October revolution. Chairman Oleksandr Moroz of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and his deputy Oleksandr Tkachenko attended the event.

Simonenko admitted that Ukraine needed reforms but lashed out against Kuchma's plans for economic reform. He saw Kuchma's policies as "an energetic follow-up to the bankrupt policies introduced by Leonid Kravchuk."

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In Simonenko's view, liberal currency and foreign trade policies facilitate the export of raw materials and bring closer economic collapse and "the capitalist privatization scheme" is clearly a swindle.

Everything must be done to rule out the sale of land and public property, he said.

"The policy of reforms has been prompted by the International Monetary Fund and contradicts the people's interests, and the achievement of the October revolution - Soviet power - has doubtlessly come under threat", Simonenko said.

Moroz Emphasizes Political Unity at 'Gala'

LD0511194194 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—A gala meeting on the occasion of the 77th anniversary of the October Revolution took place on 4 November. Chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council Oleksandr Moroz greeted the meeting. He emphasized that the October Revolution was of special significance to Ukraine. "Above all, this refers to the state-building process, because it was only after 1917 that Ukraine could unite all Ukrainians," Oleksandr Moroz emphasized. The Supreme Council chairman called on representatives of the left-wing forces to show patience and understanding in their attitude toward the socioeconomic transformations currently taking place in Ukraine. "Unfortunately, political confrontation is continuing, every effort should be made to prevent society from splitting into the extreme left and the extreme right," he stressed.

Petro Symonenko, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine, said the communists' group in parliament would spare no effort to prevent the actions by parliament, the Cabinet of Ministers and the president of Ukraine from destroying the living standards of Ukraine's population.

The participants in the meeting approved an appeal to the Supreme Council of Ukraine in which they insisted that "the decrees by the Supreme Council presidium banning the activity of the Communist Party of Ukraine should be rescinded altogether."

Crimean Deputies 'Unable' To Implement Proposal

LD0711105194 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0930 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] We are unable to implement the proposal to dispense with the contradictions between the constitutions of Ukraine and Crimea because of the exceptionally difficult political and socioeconomic situation in Crimea, says an appeal to the Presidium and parliament of Ukraine adopted at a closed session of the Crimean Supreme Soviet Presidium on the crisis in parliament.

Deputies included in the document a call for wisdom, restraint, and political perspicacity and to refrain from taking any Kind of radical measures hastily in order to resolve the problem which has arisen, and for the process of talks to be continued.

Tsekov Mentions Plans To Continue Negotiations

LD0511154694 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1415 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Simferopol—The Supreme Council of Crimea Presidium on 5 November held a session behind closed doors. It was decided after a three-hour debate on the situation that arose in parliament that no radical moves would be made, with the ruling parliamentary body confining itself to an appeal to the Supreme Council of Ukraine Presidium. The text of the appeal is still being edited.

Crimea's Parliamentary Speaker Serhiy Tsekov, however, told journalists after the session that the appeal would propose taking time in making a decision and continuing the process of negotiations. Tsekov said Crimea's Supreme Council was also to make an appeal to the Supreme Council of Ukraine at a plenary session on 10 November.

Tsekov added that Crimea's Supreme Council Presidium deemed it necessary to avoid drastic decisions and was not insistent on an all-Crimean referendum on the peninsula's status; nor did the "Russia" and "Russia-Unity" parliamentary groups any longer demand this, he said. He announced that the document drawn up by the coordinative commission to lift a moratorium on a referendum would not be under consideration, adding that, in his view, Crimea's Supreme Council decisions in the past month or two were right.

Tsekov said he believed the Ukrainian parliament's moves with regard to Crimea's Supreme Council would not be ill-considered, as they could sharply exacerbate the situation both in Crimea and Ukraine and throughout the CIS.

Presidium Discusses 'Crisis'

LD0511150894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1417 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lev Ryabchikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Simferopol November 5 TASS—A closed- door meeting of the Crimean Parliament Presidium was held here today to discuss the parliament crisis.

The meeting adopted an appeal to the Ukrainian Parliament Presidium which admits, in particular, "the proposals to eliminate differences between the Ukrainian and Crimean Constitutions cannot be fulfilled" bearing in mind the complicated social, political and economic situation in the Crimea.

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The recent parliamentary hearings revealed different attitudes to the problem on the part of the Crimean Parliament and society. The Crimean Parliament deputies noted the danger of a split in society and a social-ethnic crisis.

The appeal "urges Ukrainian Parliament deputies to show wisdom, restraint and political foresightedness, abstain from hasty adoption of radical measures in solution of the problem, and continue the negotiations".

Minister Cites Economic Reform as Key Issue

LD0611111194 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2210 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Simferopol, 5 Nov—Andriy Senchenko, a deputy prime minister of the government of Crimea, pointed out in an interview with Crimean radio: "The only justification for Crimea's statehood and the difference between the laws of Crimea and the laws of Ukraine is our desire to reform Crimea's economy.

"Our current fundamental stance is to determine and explain the content of contractual relations with Ukraine. These are not our claims for some kind of independence from the state. This is just a normal—in my opinion, the only possible—scenario for a conflict-free development of events.

"President Kuchma has repeatedly put forward the idea that Crimea should be a testing ground for carrying out reforms, in the good meaning of this word. However, at this point we should approach this issue without bias and understand that we will have to agree to changing legislation in order to carry out reforms in Crimea taken separately. In other words, we should agree to creating an order here in Crimea that is different from that in Ukraine.

"I do not think that relations and issues of national security, defense, and environment must be built on the basis of a treaty. These are nationwide issues, and it is impossible to establish any borders as far as these issues are concerned; however there can and should be some differences as far as issues of economy, currency regulation, customs regulation, and the military sphere are concerned."

Journalists Receive Threats, a Beating in Crimea

MK0511105594 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 5 Nov 94 p 20

[Report by Aelita Kochetkova: "NTV Journalist Battered. Journalists Have it Bad in Crimea"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A KOMMERSANT-DAILY correspondent reported yesterday that Viktor Sosnovskiy, Moscow NTV television company cameraman, was cruelly beaten up in his courtyard on the evening of 2 November. The same day, NTV correspondent Anna Sosnovskaya-Konyukova received by mail an anonymous message containing what was called "the blacklist of the 13" journalists—"Enemies of President Meshkov." The list concluded with a threat to destroy all these "enemies." This is not the first such letter, nor the first threat. However, the law and order bodies, journalists think, are in no hurry to take any measures. The same day, participants in an unsanctioned meeting outside the Crimean parliament attacked journalists Tatyana Korobova, Valentina Ivanova, and another journalist—Liliya Budzhurova, Republic of Crimea Supreme Soviet deputy.

Kalnyk Speaks on Pricing, Reformist Policies

WS0411134694 Kiev INTELNEWS in English 0429 GMT 4 Nov 94

[Interview with Viktor Kalnyk, Ukrainian deputy economics minister and "head of pricing policy," by Anatoliy Berkut; place and date not given]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] INTELNEWS: The recent Cabinet resolution on price liberalization follows basic ideas presented by President Kuchma in his speech to Parliament on reformist economic and social policies. Could you detail its objectives and provisions?

KALNYK: The resolution establishes a new approach to price formation, which must be seen as an important economic instrument. In the past, prices in Ukraine seemed to be subordinated to meeting social safety objectives, instead of serving as an economic indicator and mechanism providing incentives for businesses. Based on its very nature, the price is to reflect the relationship between the supply and demand. Prices do not serve as the means of carrying out social safety measures in any developed country. Previously, the Ukrainian system of price setting was based on huge subsidies. The cabinet resolution is aimed at ensuring that the price performs its major function, and to meet this end, the number of commodities and products whose prices were regulated by the state has been reduced sharply. This does not mean that all commodities and goods have been simply crossed off the list of goods subject to state price control. In fact, the state will continue to control tariffs and prices, but only in particular cases—such as natural and mineral resources, and prices of monopolistic enterprises. These measures could have been implemented much earlier but for the weak performance of the State Anti-Monopoly Committee. Even now, we still have not adopted regulations on prices for monopolistic enterprises' products. Although the draft regulations were long ago developed in our department and submitted to the cabinet for review, the regulations have not been passed yet, and that affects the pace of the price reform.

INTELNEWS: Who specifically will be responsible for carrying out the resolution, and what are the major implementation phases?

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KALNYK: Thus far, we have acquired experience in how to simply increase prices, and it will inevitably take some time "to warm up" before we introduce free prices and transfer greater powers to the regions and business entities with respect to price regulation. Some regions are reluctant to reorganize existing price system because of social safety considerations. Besides, prices on some products have already outstripped the population's purchasing power and, therefore, are in very little demand, and that also is likely to impede price reform.

INTELNEWS: Does this resolution imply a considerable reduction of prohibitive provisions and regulations to create normal conditions for business entities?

KALNYK: Yes, and agricultural sector enterprises and farmers are the first who will benefit from the resolution, for it shortens the list of agricultural products subject to price regulation to let the farmer set prices at the level to suit both his and consumers' interests. I would like to stress that the price reform foresees not only reduction of the number of goods and products with centrally set prices, but also an increase in the number of goods whose prices will be regulated by regional administrative bodies, and not by central government organs. On the other hand, some price restrictions and limitations will be retained.

INTELNEWS: What factors are forcing Ukraine to reorganize the existing price system?

KALNYK: The previously popular concept, according to which subsidizing prices, say, on bread, was good for the people, was thoroughly mistaken. This concept has broken the price balance between the industrial and agricultural products, and created disincentives for the farmer. Besides, subsidies on foodstuffs are artificial measures that automatically create a favorable environment for speculators and resellers, for in the end all products are sold at market prices. By subsidizing a particular product, we simply press the domestic producer against the wall, while the "entrepreneur," who buys goods at subsidized low prices, clears a huge profit after selling them by hook or crook at market prices. If we want to provide social benefits to people, we should not do it through handing out subsidies, but rather by means of increasing pensions and specific direct compensations to the needy.

More specifically about the factors affecting prices. First, we have increased minimum salaries and pensions, beginning on Oct. 1. But this measure has stepped up production costs, and we have to increase retail prices accordingly. Second, falling production and the persistent budget deficit also have an affect on price level. And third, the prices on energy and fuel, changing due to floating currency exchange rate fluctuations, force us to constantly revise prices and tariffs. For instance, the current price on natural gas was set according to the official exchange rate of KBV [karbovanetsi] 23,000/USD, and now (as of last week) it exceeds KBV 70,000/USD. As the exchange rate changes at a next hard currency auction, we will have to change the price on natural gas once again.

A mechanism of providing diverse and direct social benefit payments to particular social groups has not been properly developed yet, but we expect it will be developed and fully activated by the beginning of next year. For the time being, the existing system has to be used. For example, the tariffs on communal and housing maintenance services are planned to increase seven-fold in December, after which time these tariffs will be regulated by oblast authorities. However, we have established ceilings for these tariffs, according to which aggregate payment for communal services should not exceed a certain established percentage of the total cost of these services (i.e., a specific subsidy level will be maintained—ed.). Specifically, we have established a 40 percent limit for the period from February to July, and a 60 percent ceiling for the following period (the current payment/cost ratio is 5 to 10 percent—ed.).

As for the agricultural sector, subsidies will be prolonged for awhile, with sources of financing formed from the Value-Added Tax revenues. Specifically, procurement and consumption of electricity, natural gas, feed and fertilizers by agricultural enterprises and farmers will still be subsidized. Yet prices on agricultural products will largely depend on the situation in the processing industry, which remains a monopoly sector.

Mininsters, Bank Approve Hard Currency Usages

LD0611225094 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 2115 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Cabinet of Ministers and the National Bank of Ukraine have approved a resolution on an inter- departmental committee with regard to determining priorities for using hard currency and on the procedure for holding a competition for contracts on purchasing imported goods.

In accordance with the resolution, the committee is authorized to determine the volume of foreign currencies which residents may obtain in order to satisfy their requirements in imported goods, and also to pay for contributions and make payments in accordance with quotas:

—Purchase of imported energy sources (gas, oil, nuclear fuel): 45 percent;

—non-ferrous metals: 5 percent;

—plant and animal protection means: 10 percent;

—medicines, raw and other materials needed for preparing them: 15 percent;

—payment of the foreign debt, contributions and payments in accordance with Ukraine's international agreements: 20 percent.

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The use of hard currency by residents for purposes other than its destined use is punishable by a fine amounting to three times the sum of the amount of hard currency funds paid in Ukrainian currency at the market exchange rate applicable on the day such operations are conducted.

Republican Party Criticizes Price Rises

LD0511202794 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The leadership of the Ukrainian Republican Party has criticized the activities of the government resulting in another price rise. A statement issued in this connection indicates, in particular, that the new change in the price policy, as the Republicans believe, took place with the connivance of the Supreme Council leadership and brought the most vulnerable sections of the population to the very brink of survival. The leadership of the Ukrainian Republican Party believes that the way out of the tough socio-economic situation lies, in particular, in speedy privatization, reduction of taxes imposed on commodity producers, and the introduction of a single land tax.

Umanets Voices Favor To Join Vienna Convention

LD0611161094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1436 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Nuclear Energy, Mikhail Umanets, has spoken out in favor of the republic's joining to the Vienna Convention on civil responsibility for nuclear damage signed in 1963, according to which the the owner of the nuclear installation bears responsibility for the damage caused by a nuclear accident.

In an interview with Interfax-Ukraine Umanets said that Kiev will be able to join the convention only after the problem is solved concerning domestic legislation. Umanets believes that in this case legal obstacles will be removed to help cooperation between the Committee and foreign partners in the sphere of new technologies.

Ukraine needs badly advanced technologies and equipment to organize its own production of nuclear fuel and equipment for nuclear power stations, to create reservoirs for storing nuclear wastes and to solve other nuclear energy problems, he said.

Defense Ministry on New Rocket Launch Platform

LD0511171794 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1415 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—Ukraine's Defense Ministry is investigating the possibility of converting the heavy aircraft carrying cruiser Varyag into a Ukrainian carrier-rocket marine launching pad, UNIAN has been told at Ukraine's Nikolayev shipbuilding research and development center, which by 1 December 1994 is to produce a feasibility study on the volume of work required.

A marine launching pad would enable Ukraine within the framework of the national space program to start testing and regularly operating rockets and spacecraft of its own in the interests of both the armed forces and the national economy.

Vadym Kuzmenko, head of the external economic relations department at the Black Sea shipbuilding works, told a UNIAN correspondent that experts believe technological difficulties make it inexpedient to scrap the ship, which is why the use of the Varyag to launch Ukrainian-made rockets into space from the sea cannot be ruled out.

Defense Minister Comments on Oliynyk Dismissal

LD0511193594 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—Commenting on the dismissal of Col-Gen Ivan Oliynyk from the post of Ukraine's deputy defense minister for armaments, Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov said at a meeting with representatives of the mass media at the editorial office of the UKRAYINA MOLODA newspaper that Oliynyk has been transferred to the reserve for length of service.

"General Ivan Oliynyk is an expert in the space field, which is not a priority for our armed forces. Ukraine's army is based on conventional armaments, this is why a person at this post should be an expert in these issues capable of properly administering the money for the purchase of precisely those weapons that we need," Valeriy Shmarov explained.

Over the past two years Col-Gen Ivan Oliynyk has been twice dismissed from the post of deputy minister: the first time Leonid Kravchuk, commander-in-chief of Ukraine's Armed Forces, transferred him under the subordination of Ukraine's defense minister (Oliynyk was suspected of abuses connected with the arms trade); the second time he was transferred to the reserve by Leonid Kuchma, commander- in-chief of Ukraine's Armed Forces.

According to information from unofficial sources, the reason behind the latest dismissal of Ivan Oliynyk was the fact that his views on the prospects of developing the armed forces and the military-industrial complex failed to coincide with the views of Ukraine's Deputy Premier Valeriy Shmarov.

UNIAN has learned that First Deputy Chief of Armaments of Ukraine's Armed Forces, Lt-Gen Lev Hnatenko is a candidate for the post of Ukraine's deputy defense minister for armaments.

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Strike Committees Issue Statement, Plan Congress

LD0411215094 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1850 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Poltava—Serhiy Hupalo, coordinator of the organizational center for setting up a workers' strike committee of Ukraine, told UNIAN that a regular conference of representatives of the workers' bodies of power - predominantly the strike committees of Poltava, Kiev, Kharkov, Gorlovka, and Sevastopol - was held in Poltava on 4 November. The participants in the conference approved a joint statement by the workers' organizations of these cities, in which they denounced the "Ukrainian leadership's anti- people's policy of capitalization, privatization of property, deregulation of prices, and elimination of the vestiges of the social protection of the population conducted for the benefit of the International Monetary Fund."

They also denounced the "policy of so-called civic accord, which would consolidate the rule of bourgeoisie."

The conference approved an initiative to hold a workers' congress no later than December 1994, which "is called to consolidate the workers' movement in the face of a lethal threat hanging over Ukraine".

Kryvyy Rih Miners Remain Unsatisfied

AU0411212094 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 2 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Kryvyy Rih Miners Are Striking to the Bitter End"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to the Press Service of Ukraine's Independent Trade Union of Miners, the strike that Kryvyy Rih miners started two weeks ago will continue until their demands are met in full.

Despite the fact that the strikers resorted to public actions (on 27 October, a rally and a demonstration were held in Kryvyy Rih) and, on 28 and 29 October, held negotiations with Ukraine's industry minister, none of their demands has been satisfied.

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Belarus

Political Parties Voice Objection to Treaty

LD0411151694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1112 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Most political parties in Belarus have given the cold shoulder to Parliamentary Chairman Myacheslaw Hryb's proposal for concluding a treaty on social accord. They rejected the idea at a meeting with Belarusian parliament leaders in Minsk on Thursday evening.

The chairman of the Labor and Social Justice Party, Anatoliy Netylkin, warned against blindly copying Russia, which, he said, was on the verge of civil war. Netylkin said that in Belarus there were neither objective nor subjective reasons for concluding such a treaty now.

His party's leaders are certain, though, that a social accord treaty could play an important role in politics after the democratic parliamentary elections scheduled for March of next year.

The political parties' delegates also turned down Hryb's proposal for a discussion of how to "pool efforts to effect the presidential program for emergency measures to end the economic crisis".

The chairman of the Belarussian Social-Democratic Party, Oleg Trusov, argues the "program is unrealistic and political parties today should not be held responsible for its failure."

The Women's Christian Democratic Union described the meeting as an attempt by parliamentary leaders to gain support from political parties and blame the failure of the anti-crisis program on the president and the government formed under his guidance.

Myacheslaw Hryb said afterwards that the discussion was useful. The parliamentary speaker said that the meeting had been planned to be held with the participation of President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, who failed to attend due to an illness. President Lukashenka is undergoing a course of treatment at the Russian presidential residence in Sochi.

Deputy Minister Speaks on Foreign Policy Trends

WS0411123094 Minsk NARODNAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 Oct 94 pp 1,2

[Interview with First Deputy Foreign Minister Valeryy Tsepkala by Halina Ayzenshtadt; place and date not given: "Valeryy Tsepkala: 'Our Foreign Policy Should Defend the Interests of Belarus'"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Ayzenshtadt] **For what range of issues are you currently responsible?**

[Tsepkala] These would include international economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, issues of international analyses and forecasts, as well as international security and cooperation.

[Ayzenshtadt] **You were perhaps the only one of [former Supreme Soviet Chairman] Shushkevich's advisers to have resigned along with him.**

[Tsepkala] It was not quite so. [Supreme Soviet Chairman] Myacheslaw Ivanavich Hryb summoned me and asked me to find another job. Although he did not question my competence (I graduated from the Moscow Institute of International Relations [MGIMO] and worked at the Soviet Embassy in Finland and the MGIMO Department of Foreign Countries' State Law and Administration), his political attachment for the former foreign minister obviously played its role here. He told me: "What results will we have if the foreign minister advises me to do one thing and you another?"

[Ayzenshtadt] **Having changed your job, you published a series of articles, in which you presented your opinions on resolving economic problems in Belarus. What had prompted this?**

[Tsepkala] It was not a series of articles, but my dissertation entitled "Belarus on the Path of Dragon." In principle, economic laws, as well as laws of physics, are identical in any society, but if someone does not know them, there appear "explanations" that either the people or the environment are unsuitable, or that the people will neither accept nor understand something...

While studying the experience of other countries such as Germany, Italy, Spain, and Japan after World War II, or such newly industrialized countries from Southeast Asia as Taiwan, Hong Kong, South Korea, or Singapore, it becomes clear that one cannot simply buy development. It is the fruit of efforts made by an entire society. These efforts, however, are only possible on the grounds of domestic culture and traditions.

While comparing our economic situation with the situation of developed countries, the following picture of a dam unintentionally emerges: There are two levels of development—theirs, a very high level, and ours, a much lower one—and customs barriers play the role of a dam, which makes it possible for the two levels to exist. If the dam were to be dismantled, the upper reservoir would flood the lower one. Such a situation exists in eastern Germany: Despite the fact that enormous amounts of capital are being invested there, the results are marginal, even though West Germans have great experience in organizing markets and running production. An incorrect strategy is virtually wasting their incredible tactical efforts...

The tactics for countries which are lagging behind others, in terms of development, and which want to catch up with the leaders, is very simple. There are two stages: The first one is to substitute imports by primarily

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developing light industry and production of consumer goods and simultaneously protecting domestic markets and developing small and medium-sized business... that is to vitalize business activities and teach people how to work scrupulously. The second stage is to encourage exports. In Taiwan, for instance, companies are obliged to export 20 percent of their products. Whether or not they want it, they have to study foreign markets and learn to think globally.

[Ayzenshtadt] **If everything is so simple, then why did our former leadership not use this "prescription?" They wasted time...**

[Tsepkala] It was not completely so. The current situation in Belarus resembles that of Singapore in 1965. It was then "expelled" from the Malaysian Federation. It did not want to leave the federation voluntarily, and it experienced an enormous psychological shock. People there, particularly the elderly, even now cannot become accustomed to the fact that they were given independence. However, there was a very wise leader in Singapore—Lee Kuan Yew—who acted as prime minister for 20 years and led the country to prosperity. The annual per capita income in Singapore currently amounts to $12,500 [currency as received], and there was once nothing there but rice fields—virtually a barren island.

Just as with Singapore, Belarus did not intend to leave the Soviet Union (as you recall, 85 percent of our people voted to preserve the USSR). It was not an accident that the only man who voted against the Belovezhskaya forest agreements was elected as its first president. It was not Belarus' fault that the Soviet Union collapsed. However, we must currently base our position on current historical realities, and according to them build our policy, taking into account our national interests.

[Ayzenshtadt] **Will we manage to achieve what Singapore achieved? They were not affected by communism, and we are still affected by it.**

[Tsepkala] It is not a tragedy that we all are affected by communism. Paraphrasing Sir Francis Bacon, it could be put in the following way: Capitalism, socialism, communism, feudalism, and everything else is nothing more than a comedy played on the stage of the Globe Theater. In fact, the truth called "efficient economy" is hidden behind all the "-isms." This is the only reality that has been confirmed in practice. Everything else is ephemeral, thus, erroneous. The market economy is efficient. Also efficient, however, is the economy of China, which, despite the fact that it is ruled by the Communist Party, demonstrates the quickest rate of economic development in the world.

People must have an opportunity to work and earn. This should be ensured by the state, and it is not important how we term our society. The Swedes call their system socialism. The principle of social justice is observed not only in Sweden, but also in many other countries with market economies. In any system, people must have an opportunity to feel that if they work well, they will be paid well.

[Ayzenshtadt] **However, how can we resolve this problem now that the specter of increasing unemployment is looming? Should we pin our hopes on the West? But we are still unknown in the world!**

[Tsepkala] Belarus is a small state and strongly depends on external factors. We are not able, for instance, to build a self- sufficient economy, as was the case with the USSR. It is therefore not only desirable but also vital for Belarus to participate in the work of all international economic and financial organizations. This is the most important issue for our country. Our foreign policy should defend the interests of Belarus and comply with the standards set by civilized countries.

[Ayzenshtadt] **However, how can we make our relations with them efficient? So far, this matter has not moved beyond talks.**

[Tsepkala] They will only become efficient if we create normal conditions here, in Belarus. We must create such conditions for investors so that it will be advantageous for them to invest their money here. For instance, we should let them make profits slightly higher than those they make in "traditional" countries. This is the price for a market. Capital does not know ideological disagreements. The Chinese have managed to create advantageous conditions for investors, and capital has rushed into their country. However, everything should be regulated by the rule of reciprocity. If someone makes enormous profits by selling "Snickers" chocolate bars in our country, we should also have an opportunity to sell something in the country from which they are delivered here.

I once visited Nigeria, and when I was talking about our difficulties and problems, people would look at me with wonder and say: "But you are a producing nation! We produce nothing except oil..." This is from what we should proceed. We are able to produce, wear things we sew, and drive things we assemble. We are not a third-rate country which lives only thanks to foreign aid. We have a production basis, and it is important that we do not lose that.

[Ayzenshtadt] **What proposals and, perhaps, projects, which would enable Belarus "to get on in the world," is the Foreign Ministry currently preparing?**

[Tsepkala] It is too early to speak about this, since the new leadership has just begun its work. I will present my viewpoint. In my opinion, the primary issue is our attitude toward security structures. This is a conflicting point for Belarus, in terms of international law. Our Constitution provides for our aspiration to reach neutrality. It is a good thing that this is namely an aspiration, meaning our desire to keep ourselves removed from the centers of disagreements among great states. This thesis

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has currently lost its actuality, since it is hard to say that there are disagreements among them. Of course, there are certain latent geopolitical or strategic disagreements, but there are no strictly political ones. In my opinion, our full membership in various security structures—regional, subregional, and international—will better ensure Belarus' national security.

This is a position of active neutrality, which is also demonstrated by Sweden, even though it is currently revising this policy. The Swedish parliament this spring adopted a declaration, in which this country had usually been termed a neutral state, but this time it did not include the word "neutral." After Sweden joins the European Union [EU], there will be no talk about its neutrality, since the Maastricht Treaty envisions strategic partnership among EU countries.

Or, let us look at Finland. After 1991, when it did not extend the treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance with the USSR, it joined the European Free Trade Association and applied for EU membership. When it joins the EU, it will be inappropriate to term it a neutral country.

In general, I believe that, in terms of Belarusian security, its membership in all existing security structures such as the Treaty on Collective Security, the "Partnership for Peace," the CSCE, the United Nations, and the North Atlantic Cooperation Council would be very useful. The more guarantors of our security, the more security we have. [passage omitted]

Our main efforts, however, will be aimed at conducting "economic diplomacy" and implementing what the president and his team promised during the election campaign.

Moldova

Butrus-Ghali on UN Role in Economics, Peace

AU0411161994 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1400 GMT 4 Nov 94

["Dispatch" by Mircea Motrici from Chisinau]

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali, secretary general of the United Nations, arrived today in Chisinau.

Immediatcly after his arrival, he was the guest of the parliament. Here, Mr. Petre Lucinschi, the president of the lawmaking body, first voiced his satisfaction with the presence of the UN secretary general, adding that the Republic of Moldova wishes to be a democratic state aligned to international standards.

In his speech, Mr. Butrus-Ghali referred to the transition period the Republic of Moldova is passing through for the building of a new system, to the importance of their having declared their independence, and to the fact that the latter period of time was marked by interethnic conflicts.

The UN secretary general asserted that, quote, an excessive fragmentation of the states is inconceivable, unquote, after which he pointed out that the United Nations puts emphasis on democracy, which offers the best guarantees for economic development.

Mr. Butrus-Ghali appreciated the aspects related to the halting of inflation and the results obtained by the Republic of Moldova in the privatization process.

In his speech, Mr. Butrus-Ghali also sketched out the role, actions, and current and long-term initiatives of the United Nations in the consolidation of peace in progress in the world.

The agenda of the visit also included a meeting with the representatives of the ethnic minorities, talks with President Mircea Snegur, a visit to the United Nations Development Program headquarters in Chisinau, and an official lunch offered by the president of the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Mircea Snegur.

The Chisinau visit of Mr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali is to conclude in approximately 30 minutes.

Meets Leaders, Denounces 'Separatists'

LD0411174394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1450 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kishinev [Chisinau] November 4 TASS—United Nations Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, currently here on an official visit, denounced the world's separatist tendencies and called for inviolability of borders and consolidated democracy at a meeting with Moldavian Parliament deputies today.

He stressed that Moldavia [Moldova] became independent after the disintegration of the former Soviet Union. However, this event was darkened by social and economic difficulties, ethnic conflicts and separatism. Butrus-Ghali welcomed the first Moldavian successes in economic reforms and building of democratic society.

In his opinion, many ethnic communities are striving for state independence. However, one cannot allow dismemberment of states. This will entail paralysis of the United Nations, whose major principles require territorial integrity and independence, and voice inadmissibility of territorial gains by force, said Butrus-Ghali. These principles cannot be defended with violence, they should be defended with consolidated democracy. Otherwise the world order may be broken, noted the U.N. secretary-general.

Today Butrus Butrus-Ghali met Moldavian President Mircea Snegur and representatives of the republican

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ethnic minorities. The official has also visited the Kishinev office of the U.N. development program.

Gen Lebed on Problems in Dniester Region

LD0511172594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0955 GMT 5 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS freelance correspondent Sergey Aprelev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tiraspol, 5 Nov—Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Russian Army, today said Russian servicemen are refusing to subordinate to a decree by Dniester Region leader Igor Smirnov, who "violates constitutional rights." Following the publication in the local media of a commentary by Boris Luchik, procurator of the Dniester Region, in which he interprets some of the clauses of the decree, Aleksandr Lebed has protested against the clause which allows an administrative arrest of citizens for a period of up to 30 days.

In the opinion of the general, the Dniester region authorities, having lost the confidence of the majority of the population, and using the fight against crime as an excuse, are giving a free hand to arbitrariness and lawfulness. In the opinion of Aleksandr Lebed, trying to prolong the death agony of the bankrupt leadership, the measures have been taken to suppress all those who think differently and any possible acts of disobedience.

Over the last years the Dniester region authorities have been torpedoing the legitimate demands by society regarding the fight against crime, and at the very top level declining help from the professional units of the Russian Army. They have lost control over the development of the situation in this sphere and have embarked on the path of reviving the most macabre times of the communist past. Yet again people's fates are to be decided by notorious three-men commissions, comprising procurator, Interior Ministry, and State Security Ministry officials, and their moral image is commonly known, Aleksandr Lebed writes.

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Kyrgyzstan

Edict Issued on Deputies' Conflicts of Interest

LD0411194394 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Kyrgyz Government has adopted a resolution on certain matters relating to the elections to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan.

In accordance with Article 30 of the law on elections of deputies to the Supreme Council of Kyrgyzstan, the Government of Kyrgyzstan resolves:

1. Being guided by sub point 2 of point 1 of the Kyrgyz presidential edict issued on 27 October 1994 on certain amendments and alterations to the procedure for elections of deputies to the Supreme Council resulting from the decision of the nationwide referendum of 22 October 1994 on creating a bicameral Supreme Council, it is established that persons who are in the following posts on bodies of executive authority will give up their authorities and discontinue carrying out their duties at work on the day of their registration as candidate-deputies for the Supreme Council:

- Members of the Kyrgyz Government and their deputies;
- Heads of regional, district, and municipal state administrations and their deputies;
- Heads of administrative departments of the Kyrgyz Republic, state commissions, funds, business projects by the Kyrgyz Government and their deputies;
- The prosecutor general, regional, district and municipal prosecutors and persons equal to them in position and their deputies;
- Heads of regional, district, and municipal national security bodies and their deputies;
- Heads of regional, district, and municipal bodies of internal affairs and their deputies;
- Heads of regional, district, and municipal military commissaries and their deputies;
- Heads of republican and local customs, tax inspections and tax police and their deputies;
- The commander of the Kyrgyz national guard and his deputies;
- Commander of the Interior Ministry troops of the Kyrgyz Republic and his deputies.

The officials mentioned above, from the day of their registration as candidate-deputies for the Supreme Council, will present a statement to this effect to the state body that appointed them to their posts and from that moment they will cease carrying out their official duties until their deputies' authorities are confirmed or the results of the elections announced.

People who violate these requirements will be called to account in the manner established by legislation.

2. People who are in posts in bodies of executive authority, from the moment they are elected deputies of the Legislative Assembly of the Supreme Council of the Kyrgyz Republic, will be relieved from their posts.

3. In accordance with Article 118 of the Labor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, candidate deputies to the Supreme Council are guaranteed that their post will be preserved and an average salary in accordance with the reasons and instructions envisaged by this resolution.

The resolution was signed by Prime Minister Abbas Dzhumagulov.

Tajikistan

Radio Announces Preliminary Election Results

LD0711065294

[FBIS Editorial Report] Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik at 0600 GMT on 7 November announces that Tajik head of state Emomali Rakhmanov has won the 6 November presidential elections with 60 percent of the vote. His only rival, Abdumalik Abdullojonov, won 35 percent of the vote.

Preliminary results from the Tajik central election commission, the radio says, show a 95 percent turnout. The radio then announces the following preliminary results of the election:

"Emomali Rakhmanov: 1,434,437 votes, or 60 percent.

"Abdumalik Abdullojonov: 835,861 votes, or 35 percent of the vote."

Rakhmanov Wins 60 Percent of Votes

LD0711023094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0154 GMT 7 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Galina Gridneva, Andrey Palariya]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dushanbe, 7 Nov—Emomali Rakhmanov has won the absolute majority of votes—60 percent—during the presidential elections in Tajikistan, which guarantees his victory in the electoral compaign. This has become known to ITAR-TASS from reliable sources close to the Central Electoral Commission. The official preliminary results will be announced here today.

Besides the 42-year-old Emomali Rakhmanov, Abdumalik Abdullojonov, the 45-year-old ambassador of Tajikistan to Russia, also ran for the post of president.

Emomali Rakkhmanov has gained, according to district electoral commissions, the highest number of votes from his home region in the Khatlon Oblast, in the south of the Republic, where approximately 98 percent of the electorate voted for him. He also won virtually 100 percent of the votes in the Gorno-Badakhshan region as well as in a number of rayons subordinated directly to the Republic's central state bodies.

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Turnout Reaches 90 Percent

LD0611164994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1617 GMT 6 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Galina Gridneva and Andrey Palariya]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dushanbe, 6 Nov—As was expected, the highest turnout at the presidential elections in Tajikistan was registered in Khatlon region, where 95 percent of voters cast their votes by 1800 hours local time. ITAR-TASS has learned at the Central Electoral Commission that by 1800 hours local time, 90 percent of voters, or 2,338,356 out of 2,647,398 people registered as voters, took part in the elections and the referendum on a new constitution.

According to the Commission, by 1800 hours 87.7 percent of voters cast their votes in Leninabad region, 77.6 percent in Gorno-Badakhshan, and a little under 76 percent in the republican capital Dushanbe.

At 2000 hours, all 2,649 polling stations closed, and the counting of votes began.

The results of the elections of the second president of the Republic of Tajikistan (the first president elected by the people was Rakhmon Nabiyev) may be known late tonight.

Further on Election Results

LD0711073494 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0636 GMT 7 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] According to the preliminary cable reports received by the Central Election Commission running the election of the republic's president, in all of the 64 constituencies there were 2,535,754 voters registered; 2,409,330 voters, or 95 percent of the electorate, participated in the ballot.

The results of the presidential elections in Tajikistan are as follows:

Emomali Rakhmanov: 1,434,437 votes, or 60 percent.

Abdumalik Abdullojonov: 835,861 votes, or 35 percent of the vote.

So, according to the preliminary results of the elections, the president of the Republic has been elected.

'Several' Arrested in Connection With Bomb Explosions

LD0511223094 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] On Saturday [5 November] law-enforcement bodies in Tajikistan arrested several members of the group that organized the series of explosions in Dushanbe on Friday, INTERFAX reports. It is presumed that these actions were taken to frighten citizens into not voting in the presidential elections and the referendum on the new constitution set for Sunday.

The law-enforcement bodies are taking measures in connection with this. In particular, those who turn up to vote carrying suspicious parcels or bags will undergo inspection. [passage omitted]

Security Stepped Up After Explosions

LD0411231394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1646 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By unidentified ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dushanbe, 4 Nov—Tajikistan's authorities regard today's explosions in Dushanbe as an attempt by certain forces to upset the situation in the Republic on the eve of presidential elections and a referendum on the new constitution, Tajik Security Minister Saydamir Zukhurov said on national television today. He stressed that Tajikistan's leadership had forwarded a political statement on the acts of terror to the UN mission and the ambassadors of Russia, the United States, and Iran.

According to the head of national security, the heads of embassies and the mission have condemned the act. Zukhurov told the TV viewers that the republican leadership, including its law-enforcement bodies, are taking additional measures to ensure the population's security for the period of the election campaign. The guarding of all the important strategic facilities of the national economy as well as the main post office, the Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, government buildings, post offices, and other structures has been stepped up. The town is controlled by additional sub-units of the Interior Ministry, the Security Ministry, and individual sub-units of the collective peace-keeping forces stationed in Tajikistan.

The security minister said that an operational and investigating group of the republic's Interior and Security Ministries is carrying out a thorough investigation of the explosions in Dushanbe. As was reported earlier, explosive devices were planted in the rayon executive committee, which houses the district electoral commission, the Tajik inter-urban telephone exchange, the Agriculture Ministry, and the printing house No. 1, all situated in the town center. Luckily, nobody was hurt.

Russia Delivers 2,000 Tonnes of Flour to Dushanbe

LD0511152594 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1100 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] On 4 November, 2,000 tonnes of flour were delivered to the capital of our country from the Russian Federation.

In compliance with the decree of the Government of Tajikistan, the flour will be distributed among the cotton growing areas of the Republic.

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The Government of Tajikistan has adopted a decree to sell 7,000 tonnes of this year's cotton to the Republics of Russia, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan. In return, the Republic of Tajikistan will be supplied with cash money. The money will be given, first of all, to farmers, teachers, and pensioners.

Turkmenistan

Kuchma Arrives in Ashgabat for Talks

LD0411145094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1221 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Glazovskaya]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ashgabat November 4 TASS—Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma arrived here today for an official visit.

He is expected to begin talks today with Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov, which will be continued tomorrow. In the evening a supper will be given for the honoured guest.

Clinton Asks Niyazov To Postpone Ukraine Debt

LD0411120394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1050 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Glazovskaya]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ashgabat November 4 TASS—U.S. President Bill Clinton addressed a message to Turkmenian President Saparmurad Niyazov on the eve of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's visit to Turkmenistan, where he is to arrive today. The message expresses the hope that Niyazov would display generosity and good will by postponing the payment of Ukraine's's debt and by rendering it financial support until the end of 1995. The U.S. President noted that, after acquiring a strong market economy, Ukraine will become Turkmenistan's reliable partner and will serve as a large market for Turkmenian goods.

Clinton stressed the importance of Ukrainian reforms from the strategic, political, and economic points of view. The United States has promised to grant Ukraine 100 million U.S. dollars already in the fourth quarter of this year. Referring to the view of the international community, Clinton expressed the hope that Turkmenistan would also play a key role in rendering financial support to Ukraine until the end of 1995. Turkmenistan will begin getting a part of the payments shortly, meaning that Ukraine's debt will be paid back gradually.

Turkmenistan To Reschedule Debt

LD0411193194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1718 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Turkmenistan will defer Ukraine's debt for 1992-93 for seven years, Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov said.

"This a definitive decision," Niyazov told reporters in Ashgabat following the first day of talks with his Ukrainian counterpart, Leonid Kuchma, which have opened in the Turkmen capital.

The Ukrainian debt will be formalized as a loan to be repaid in seven years, the Turkmen leader said.

The two presidents' negotiations, which are to continue on Saturday and are attended by the chief U.S. coordinator for the Commonwealth of Independent States, James Collins, are mainly focused on Turkmenistan's raw materials exports to Ukraine in 1995 and Ukraine's arrears for Turkmen natural gas imports. Some estimates put Kiev's total debt to the Central Asian republic, most of which are gas arrears, at $600 million.

Asked about Ukrainian arrears accumulated over this year, Niyazov said that, to repay those, Ukraine was to allocate part of the aid to come from the International Monetary Fund and the Group of Seven industrialized nations. According to some sources, $371 million is to be provided by the IMF, $100 million by the United States, another $100 million by the European Union and $50 million by Canada.

Niyazov Meets Adviser to U.S. Secretary of State

LD0411181194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1533 GMT 4 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anna Kurbanova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ashkhabad [Ashgabat] November 4 TASS—A meeting of Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov and special adviser to the U.S. Secretary of State James Collins discussed here today prospects for bilateral relations.

Bilateral trade relations will be boosted first, Collins told ITAR-TASS upon the meeting completion. He said the sides showed their interest in cooperation in the Turkmen western region rich in oil and gas.

On behalf of U.S. President Bill Clinton, Collins requested Niyazov to allow a delay of Ukrainian payments for Turkmen gas and render financial assistance to Ukraine till the end of 1995.

Today James Collins ended his visit to Turkmenistan.

Uzbekistan

Karimov Meets With U.S. Delegation, Praises Cooperation

LD0611111294 Tashkent Uzbek Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Today Uzbek President Islam Karimov received an American delegation headed by James Collins, the U.S. State Department chief coordinator for CIS countries.

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As he welcomed the delegation members, who included the heads of virtually all U.S. departments and organizations, President Karimov noted among other things that Uzbekistan assigns great importance to cooperation with America. He expressed satisfaction with the development of relations at the present stage. American-Uzbek cooperation is expanding in many areas, and the frequent visits of U.S. delegations to our state are the proof of this.

In turn, James Collins thanked the president for the opportunity to meet him and the chance to hold talks with the heads of Uzbek ministries and government departments in the course of the visit. He noted that this was a good thing for future prospects. This visit is intended to lift the current barriers to Uzbek-American cooperation and to place it on a firm footing. Whereas earlier it was mainly economic ties which developed, other spheres of life are now being augmented by mutually advantageous bilateral contacts.

The Uzbek president voiced approval for the U.S. State Department's decision to promote cooperation with Uzbekistan in every way possible.

Presidential Adviser Gulyamov, Deputy Prime Ministers Saidmukhtar Saidkasymovich, Otkir Sultanov, Bakhtiyar Khamidov, and Viktor Chzhen, Foreign Minister Abdulaziz Kamilov and U.S. Ambassador Henry Lee Clark took part in the meeting.

Today the American delegation led by James Collins was received at the republic's Cabinet of Ministers. During a round of talks and an exchange of views, both sides voiced satisfaction with the recent successful development of American-Uzbek cooperation. For instance, trade turnover this year is double the 1993 figure. Cooperation is taking place successfully in various spheres of life.

Analyzing the current phase of bilateral cooperation during the negotiations, Mr. James Collins and deputy prime ministers Otkir Sultanov, Bakhtiyar Khamidov and Viktor Chzhen spoke positively about the prospects for developing this cooperation.

The American delegation was also received at the Uzbek Foreign Ministry, where cooperation between the two government departments was discussed. During a frank conversation there was an exchange of views on many aspects of mutually beneficial cooperation. It was proposed to invigorate the process of inter-departmental political consultations, and to raise these to a higher level. This will allow relations between the two states to be raised to a new level.

U.S. Drops Duties on Some Goods; Customs Official Comments

LD0411173694 Tashkent BIZNES VESTNIK VOSTOKA in Russian 4 Nov 94 p 8

[FBIS Translated Text] U.S. President Bill Clinton has added Uzbekistan and Belarus to the list of developing countries that have the right to import certain goods permitted by the General Preference System [GPS] without paying duty. Clinton granted these countries the same conditions given to two other states of the former Soviet Union, Russia and Kyrgyzstan. Alik Khabibullayevich Khodjayev, chief of the Customs Control Organization Directorate of the Main Customs Directorate at the State Taxation Committee, commented on this to a BIZNES VESTNIK VOSTOKA correspondent.

"The rights granted to Uzbekistan to import goods into the United States without paying duty is an acknowledgement of the progress of the economic reforms being implemented in Uzbekistan. This privilege is a great support to the young independent state's developing economy. The customs tariff regulation system in the United States is very clear. The scale of customs tariffs varies greatly here. It may vary from between three and 100 percent. If the United States grants us the right to bring in certain goods without paying duty, this will certainly have an effect on their cost. After all, for any country, customs duties are a powerful economic regulator, a way of increasing revenues for the state budget.

"A preference is a special privileged economic regime granted to young independent developing states that are being integrated into the world economic zone. These are a group of measures that help mutual trade relations between countries. The GPS is a code of privileges that is used by one state in relation to another on mutually beneficial grounds. Preferences may involve a reduction or cancellation of customs duties. They may envisage a group of regulation measures not involving tariffs: exemption from licensing or giving citizens the possibility of entering the other country to work. Privileges may also include the increase of goods import quotas. As is known, the world market is already divided up, and the quantity of goods imported into this or that country is defined by the world economic community.

"Preferences can be both unilateral and bilateral. There are countries that are totally exempt from customs duties on imports. As a rule, such privileges are given to countries with a low level of development in agreement with international organizations and the governments of states.

"There is a popular saying that all wars start with customs battles. Customs tariffs may acquire a political coloring as well as being a regulator of the economy. It is enough to recollect the customs war between the United States and Japan. Attempting to conquer the American market, Japan started to export its goods to the United States at low prices. The United States took measures to protect its manufacturers and introduced a least-favored regime in relation to Japan: maximum rates of customs duties on goods being imported.

"The list of goods being exported from Uzbekistan into the United States on a duty-free basis must be given by the U.S. Government. As a rule, those goods that must

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not compete with the production of local manufacturers are included in the preference system. Mainly, they are purely traditional goods, handicrafts, and other products, which are not produced in the country giving the preference. It may be strategic products: cotton, oil, certain types of equipment, technology and know-how.

"The rights granted to Uzbekistan for the duty-free import of goods is a remarkable breakthrough in the development of trade relations between the two countries. This must have a favorable effect on the development of the republic's export potential. By decree of the president of the Republic dated 21 January 1994, Uzbekistan established the duty-free import of goods until 1 January 1995. This is also an essential privilege for foreign manufacturers who wish to conquer the Uzbekistan market."

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Armenia

Ter-Petrosyan Views CSCE-Russia Agreement on Karabakh

NC0411210794 Yerevan SNARK in English 1017 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan, November 4 (SNARK)—A president of Armenia Levon Ter-Petrosyan declared for the achievement of agreement between CSCE and Russia on a problem of Karabakh conflict settlement. Coming out today at the press-conference in Yerevan on the results of UN Secretary General visit to Armenia, the president stated that both, CSCE and Russia are making the same mistake, while trying to press on the parties of the conflict with purpose to get their agreement for one of the proposed conflict settlement programs.

"I suppose it would be better if they achieved agreement between each other first and only then submitted their peace-keeping program to the parties," stressed Levon Ter-Petrosyan. In his opinion, the present situation may cause a violence of this "delicate armistice." The president expressed his hope that misunderstanding of CSCE and Russia will soon be reconciled.

Ter-Petrosyan called all the efforts to represent Karabakh-Azerbaijani conflict as a conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia to be futile. "It is easier to settle the conflict by means of negotiations between Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh, meanwhile the conflict can never be solved by means of negotiations between Armenia and Azerbaijan," said the president.

Butrus-Ghali Rejects Territorial Annexation

LD0411150994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1229 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The United Nations' stand on the Karabakh problem is for territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and the ruling out of territorial annexations, the UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali has said. He was speaking at a news conference in Yerevan on Friday on the results of his visits to Transcaucasia.

At the same time Mr Butrus-Ghali said that the United Nations welcomed the revision of borders on the condition it was agreed by the conflicting parties.

Mr Butrus-Ghali called on the warring factions to comply with the four UN Security Council resolutions on Nagorno-Karabakh.

He was promised during the visit that both sides were prepared to continue to observe the truce effective since May 12.

Asked whether the United Nations could give Russia the mandate to carry out a peace-keeping operation in Nagorno-Karabakh, Mr Butrus-Ghali said he was against giving such a mandate to any country or a group of countries. He would prefer the United Nations assumed full responsibility for all peacekeeping operations.

At the same time Mr Butrus-Ghali said that if the UN Security Council proved unable to provide a peace-keeping force, giving such a mandate to a group of countries would be the best alternative.

Mr Butrus-Ghali also said that he had never called Armenia an "aggressor", contrary to what certain mass media report. He said that in his speech in Azerbaijan he had used only the terms contained in United Nations resolutions.

President Levon Ter-Petrosyan of Armenia has told a news conference that Russia and the CSCE were divided on the issue of the Karabakh settlement. He said, however, that both sides exerted serious diplomatic efforts to narrow their differences.

He said both mediators—the CSCE and Russia—made the same mistake. They tried to use pressure to make the warring parties accept their peace plans. "Meanwhile, the peace makers should reach agreement between themselves first and then present their peace plan to the warring factions."

President Ter-Petrosyan said that if the negotiations took too much time, the fragile armistice would be in jeopardy.

Georgia

Abkhazia Resumes Attempts To Form Republic

LD0411180594 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1300 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The center for securing information on the settlement of the Abkhazian conflict reports that according to information obtained by the center, the so-called authorities of Abkhazia spare no efforts to find excuses for the injustice over the territory of Abkhazia in order to demonstrate the legal existence of the independent republic of Abkhazia. This was the purpose of a barbed wire fence built along the Inguri River indicating a so-called state border. The fence has already reached the village of Tagiloni.

The construction of communications facilities along the border is also planned. In addition, all possible fords across the Inguri River are being mined, this often causing fatal accidents.

It should be noted that following the Georgian side's demands, and after the Russian peacekeeping forces had intervened, this process was stopped.

The renewal of the process today means that the Abkhaz side flagrantly violates the corresponding articles of the quadripartite agreement and this can be regarded as yet another effort to further aggravate the current situation.

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Butrus-Ghali Suggests 14 Nov Abhazia Talks in Geneva

LD0411175994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1445 GMT 4 Nov 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali has suggested holding talks in Geneva on November 14 with his personal participation between Chairman of Georgia's parliament Eduard Shevardnadze, Abkhazian leader Vladislav Ardzinba, and Russian representatives. The purpose of the meeting is "to finally resolve the Abkhazia problem." This was reported to Interfax in Tbilisi on Friday by Georgia's Foreign Minister Aleksandre Chikvaidze.

In his words, he has already discussed this offer with Eduard Shevardnadze. "We came to the conclusion that the issue on holding talks with Russian leaders need to be settled first," Chikvaidze noted.

He called "unacceptable" the peace plan, put forward by Edward Bruner, Butrus-Ghali's personal envoy. As Chikvaidze explained, Bruner offered two settlement options: Either to fix the political status of Abkhazia and then settle the issue on refugees return, or try to solve both issues simultaneously.

"Georgian leadership is flatly against such a plan, considering that Abkhazia's political status should be settled with refugees participation after their return to the homeland," Chikvaidze stressed.

He voiced hope that after Butrus-Ghali's visit to Georgia, "the UN will correct its position on the issue."

Stricter Electricity Rationing Imposed in Tbilisi

LD0611140394 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1300 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Due to the fact that the city of Tbilisi consumes more than the electricity ration stipulated for the city by the decree of the Georgian head of state, the municipal enterprise Telasi [Tbilisi Electric Power Network] announces that, in order to maintain the consumption of the rationed quantity of power, it will supply electricity to the population and organizations from 0700 till 0900 and from 1800 till 2400. There will be no limits on supplies of electricity to facilities of vital importance. The organizations in debt for electricity will be cut off from the supply without any further warning.

In case the population creates obstacles to the scheduled cut off, we will be forced to cut off power locally, and this might cause casualties and other grave consequences.

We appeal to you all to help us carry out measures for conserving electricity.

[signed] Telasi General Manager Zurab Gurgenidze

Authorities Issue Warning to Violators

LD0511121994 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0800 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Here is a statement made by the Sakenergo [Georgian power production and consumption] department.

Despite repeated warnings issued by the republic's emergency headquarters, some towns and rayons continue consuming more than the electric power rations allotted to them. This causes an early exhaustion of the water resources envisaged for the winter and an emergency drop in the output of the power system, which may have a disastrous effect.

We would like to remind the heads of local administration in towns and rayons that, in accordance with edict No. 267 of the Georgian head of state, they have been made personally responsible for strict adherence to the rationing system. We appeal to all those consuming power in excess of the limits—especially the Dusheti, Samtredia, Abasha, and Senaki administrators—to take urgent measures to curb the consumption of power beyond the allotted ration.

The heads of power facilities and supervisors are warned that they will be dismissed from their posts if they fail to take necessary measures within the next few days.

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Estonia

Laar Addresses Conference on EU Aspirations

WS0411133494 Tallinn BNS in English 1603 GMT 3 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Tallinn, Nov 03, BNS—Estonia has set its sights on becoming a full member of the European Union [EU] by the turn of the millennium, Estonia's outgoing Prime Minister Mart Laar affirmed at the "Estonia and the European Union" conference that opened in Tallinn today.

In Laar's words, Estonia must be ready to start negotiations towards this end at the end of 1996. He voiced the opinion that talks should begin at the same time as negotiations between the European Union and the Visegrad states.

Laar stated that Estonia's chances to join the European Union primarily depend on the Baltic country itself. "Only if Estonia continues radical reforms can it build up its economy. Only if Estonia will deepen the reforms can it build up a real partnership with Europe," he emphasized.

In Laar's opinion, Europe must choose between existence and non- existence. "Without possessing a new dynamism, European development will lose its place in the world," he said.

Foreign Minister Juri Luik in his speech dealt with foreign and security policy issues related to integration into Europe. "The European Union means stability," he stated.

Luik attached importance to an early inclusion of the Baltic states among associate countries, equal treatment of all associate countries, and maximum participation by the associate countries in a structured dialogue with the European Union. He was certain that the foreign and security policy aspects of association were one area where the Central European countries could with benefit to both sides be much more closely involved in the workings of the European Union. [passage omitted]

Today's plenary session ended with a report by Ivar Raig, head of the governmental "Estonia and the European Union" working group.

Raig said the European Union might be interested in the integration of Estonia and the entire Baltic region because it would mean int[illegible]ration of a region of potential economic growth [illegible] would not require extensive financial aid to get b[illegible]ts feet. It also could increase stability in the geopol[illegible] area not far from the nucleus of the union. The move would give the union a foothold for onward movement from the Baltics to the large eastern market. The Baltic Sea would become the inland sea of the united Europe, which would allow to better carry out integration in the field of transportation and other forms of communication as well as environmental protection in the context of development of the entire northern Europe.

Raig assured that the association of the Baltic region would enlarge the cultural and environmental diversity of the EU.

The conference continues with reports and discussions in the foreign and security policy, economic policy, social, educational and cultural policy, and legal aspects working groups. The meeting is going to discuss the preliminary theses on Estonia's future EU membership prepared by the governmental working group.

The theses point out that joining the EU would offer Estonia increased security through economic ties with Western European countries and through participation in European security structures, high-level models for legislation, social policy, and environmental protection, added stability in economic relations with Russia, and better opportunities to realize its potential resultant from its geographical position.

As to the social aspects of Estonia's entry into the EU, the working group notes that the country being behind the EU level in terms of living standard may lead to serious changes in the population structure, such as young educated Estonians leaving for the West, a resulting decline in the birth rate, and surplus of skilled jobs, which may cause a new influx of migrant workers from countries with high unemployment.

The theses state it's important that qualification requirements and vocational standards applicable to workers in Estonia be brought into line with European standards.

The governmental working group points out that on joining the EU Estonia must achieve a significant success in the field of security, but, at the same time, the approach toward closer integration with Europe is in itself an important factor in increasing security.

Environmental problems will not be an obstacle to Estonia's possible entry into the EU, the working group says, but accession would mean tighter environmental and, in particular, emission standards, which would have a positive effect on the environment but may cause problems for the country's energy and industry sectors. In the long run, however, this would contribute to the state's technological development, the report concludes.

Terk Notes 'Numerous' Problems

WS0711113294 Tallinn ETA in English 1642 GMT 4 Nov 94

["News Release"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] At the conference Estonia and the European Union [EU] that concluded on Friday in Tallinn it was stated that before Estonia could ever become an European Union member state, it had to

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conquer numerous economic and legal problems and develop institutions acceptable to the bloc.

"I was directly told that at the level of economic development we have reached now it was not possible to accept Estonia into EU," director general of Estonian Future Studies Institute Erik Terk, who worked at the economic policy group at the conference told ETA. "To be granted full EU membership Estonia's gross national product has to reach the level of the poorest EU countries first," he stated.

This was not the only problem, he stated, adding that another problem was posed by the numerous legislature EU has. The committee concluded, however, that a wish to copy EU legal acts was not the most important in the way to EU, the real prerequisite to become a full member was the ability to carry into life the 35,000 pages of legal acts, for which effective institutions were needed, that Estonia does not have at present.

Estonian leaders have declared that their intention was for Estonia to become a full EU member by the end of the century. The association agreement that is considered the next logical step after the free trade agreement, that will come into force starting January 1, 1995, could be concluded as early as the beginning of next year, officials said at the conference.

The conference that gathered experts from Baltic, Nordic and EU states, was a first attempt to discuss Estonia's integration into EU at a wider level. Although the direction has been taken by the leaders of the country, the problems have been relatively little discussed both by state authorities and the general public.

Administration Approves Agreements With Russia

WS0411133894 Tallinn BNS in English 1006 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tallinn, Nov 04, BNS—The outgoing government at its session Thursday approved the Estonian-Russian agreements on troop withdrawal and on social protection for Russian military retirees and their family members, which presidents Lennart Meri and Boris Yeltsin signed July 26 in Moscow, the government press service told BNS.

The Cabinet discussed the legal expertise of the documents already Tuesday but sent the report back to the Justice Ministry "for some specification." Yesterday's ruling apparently followed the examination of the adjusted report.

Departing Prime Minister Mart Laar Tuesday told reporters the troop withdrawal agreement was actually no longer valid, as Russian troops had already left Estonia, yet international agreements have to be ratified in parliament.

Laar also said he thought it "quite possible" that the government would have to amend some decrees and other legal acts after the ratification of the accord on social protection for Russian retired military and their family members. The Cabinet therefore wanted the Justice Ministry to indicate which legislation would have to be changed.

"The drafts for those laws should be sent into the parliament together with the text of the agreement so the legislators, too, would be informed," he said.

Justice Minister Urmas Arumae, however, found that the agreements become binding on Estonia only after the parliament has ratified them.

The Justice Ministry submitted the expertise of the Estonian- Russian accords to the government on Oct. 28. The panel of experts included, among others, the well-known jurists Ilmar Rebane and Ando Leps. The group of experts led by Arumae also discussed opinions sent in by emigre Estonian specialists.

Endorses Troop Withdrawal, Social Issues

LD0411152994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1112 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thursday evening, according to the government press service, the Estonian government endorsed Estonian- Russian agreements on the withdrawal of Russian troops and social guarantees for the retired Russian servicemen. The agreements were signed on July 26 in Moscow.

Earlier, Prime Minister Mart Laar declared that legal experts must give more thought to certain provisions found in those agreements. Laar questioned the need for ratifying the troop pullout agreement, he said that the document had already expired and the last Russian troops were pulled out of Estonia on August 31. Laar felt diplomatic levers must be used to eliminate legal differences.

Estonia's future Prime Minister Andres Tarand said that the Estonian and Russian legislatures must take simultaneous action for the ratification of those agreements. He believed the two documents could be ratified in January, 1995.

Latvia

Finnish President Supports EU Membership

LD0611190294 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 6 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Latvian State President Guntis Ulmanis returned to Latvia an hour ago, after a three-day unofficial visit to Finland. Anta Busa, an official from the state president's press service, will tell us over the telephone about the president's visit.

[Begin Busa recording] In three days the president received sufficiently wide understanding about Finland's stance on various central political issues and processes related to integration into Europe. The president had

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several meetings with various well-known Finnish politicians, in spite of the fact that these were their vacations, and, of course, with President Antti Ahtisaari.

The Latvian state president discussed with the Finnish president mainly two central issues—the prospects of cooperation within the bloc of the Baltic and Nordic states, and the issue resulting from debates in the Finnish parliament on joining the European Union [EU], which is currently widely discussed in Finland. Although it seems to everybody that a decision has practically already been made on this issue, concern is nevertheless still voiced on how to use the integration into the European structures more favorably, so that Finland in practice does not lose anything.

President Ahtisaari promised to support the Latvian state in all the processes related to Latvia's attempts to get involved in the European structures, including the European Union, and pledged practical assistance to democratization processes in Latvia, so that it could honorably return to the family of free European states. [end recording]

Official on Inadequate Airspace Control, Radar

WS0711112794 Tallinn BNS in English 1628 GMT 5 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, Nov 05, BNS—Control over Latvia's airspace cannot be performed with two radio-locators and four out-of-date transport planes, Air Forces Cmdr. Karlis Kins told BNS.

Kins explained that the control over Latvia's airspace is not sufficient, because it is performed just with two radars, belonging to the Riga airport and Liepaja.

The Air Force leadership carries talks with French, Italian, Polish and Swedish firms on the purchase of three radars.

Kins noted that, during the meeting of the Baltic states' air force commanders on Oct. 28, cooperation in the airspace control was discussed. Taking into account the enormous sum of money needed for the formation of an effective control system, the Baltic states could join their technical abilities as well as organize the exchange of information, necessary for the work.

As to the technical provision, Kins noted that Latvia needed approximately 10 of each: fighters, helicopters and transport planes, but now the Air Force owns only 4 transport planes and 5 helicopters.

Kins said that the Air Force leadership cooperates with the Latvian Aviation Academy and the National Defense Academy. Presently 10 people are selected who will be prepared for the service in Latvia's Air Forces.

Lithuania

Culture Minister Resigns, Does Not Give Reason

LD0411162394 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1300 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Lithuanian Culture Minister Dainius Trinkunas sent in his resignation on Thursday, the newspaper LIETUVOS RYTAS reports. It adds that a conversation about replacing the minister took place over a week ago in the president's office. Apart from the minister himself and the president, this meeting was attended by Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius and by Seimas chairman Ceslovas Jursenas.

Dainius Trinkunas has refused to state the reason for his resignation. He was appointed to this post in 1992 during the Bronislovas Lubys government.

President, Banker on Russian Financial Contact

LD0511093794 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 4 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] President Algirdas Brazauskas received the president of the Association of Russian Banks, Sergey Yegorov, today. Their meeting was attended by the chairman of the Board of the Bank of Lithuania, Kazys Ratkevicius, and fourteen heads of commercial banks.

Sergey Yegorov arrived in Vilnius at the invitation of the Lithuanian bankers. He told journalists that it was agreed to maintain closer contacts with representatives of the Lithuanian financial circles during the visit of Lithuanian industrialists in Moscow last week. According to Sergey Yegorov, about 1,000 banks belong to the Association of Russian Banks. Some of them would like to maintain direct contacts with Lithuanian commercial banks.

The presidential adviser on economy, Salomeja Giriotiene, told ELTA that issues of cooperation between the Lithuanian and Russian banks were not discussed during the meeting. Sergey Yegorov described the Russian banking structures and economic situation in the country. Views were exchanged on the increase of the part played by commercial banks in rendering the economies of both countries more active and in forecasting macroeconomic processes.

Sergey Yegorov invited representatives of the Lithuanian banks to cooperate in a more active way with the association led by him.

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